



## Your monthly update on WMS News and Events

### Chairman’s Foreword:

*“I would just like to thank all the committee for their exceptional contributions throughout 2023. Without your dedication our shed would not be the success that it is. I would also like to thank each and every member of our shed and your partners for your friendship and support over the last year. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Prosperous and Happy New Year.”*

*Malcolm Trayhorn* – Chairman - email: [malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com](mailto:malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com)

### In Memoriam:



This month we sadly report the loss one of our members. **Martin Lavers** sadly passed away on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023 aged 85. Condolences were sent to his family and several members attended his funeral which took place on the 14<sup>th</sup> December.

Martin joined the shed in June 2018 and enjoyed talking about anything and everything. He was a civil engineer and had built up a worldwide reputation for his work. Martin will be sadly missed.



### Editorial: *(Fresh articles needed for publication please)*

Welcome to issue 28 of "THE SHED JOURNAL"  
I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

*“Please bear in mind that this is your publication and without contributions from members we are in danger of the Journal becoming somewhat staid in its content/presentation. The more of you who contribute the more interesting and diverse we can make it. Over time I have tried to introduce a few new sections: -*

**Trusted Traders.** Here you can recommend or disgrace a company or tradesperson.

**Happy Shopper.** You can recommend or debunk an item purchased or the shop it was purchased from.

**Local events.** If you hear of an upcoming Wayland event, please inform me and I shall add it to the list.

**Wanted, For Sale or Free.** Send a description, price, and contact details with or without a picture or two.

*If you can think of anything interesting or informative to include i.e., Scams, DIY/Gardening tips, a film, book, magazine or music review, a good TV or radio station then please feel free to send me details and I will consider them all.*

*If you come across an interesting article (not too lengthy), please send it to me or point me to it. Members are also welcome and indeed encouraged to contribute small articles themselves (around 300 words with pictures) of days out, holidays, life/work experience, hobbies etc. You may think it mundane, but rest assured, some members will find it interesting. I’m sure we all have a story to tell, once you start writing it will flow.”*

**Note:** *“Political, Financial and Religious articles will be closely scrutinised before publication. However, defamatory articles will not be published.”*

*“As I am far from infallible, please advise of any errors/typos and feel free to send me your comments, good or bad. I strive to please. If you prefer not to receive ‘The Shed Journal’ please let me know by return.”*

*John Chamberlin* - Editor - email: [bjcoi8@gmail.com](mailto:bjcoi8@gmail.com)





## Latest News on Shed Facilities and Amenities:

### Main Social Room:

*“The Main Social Room is where the larger part of our membership congregates to catch up with fellow shedders over a cup of tea/coffee. Groups develop for a game of something or other although this is not all that goes on. Other groups may sit chatting about whatever comes up, perhaps the news, holidays, home, hobbies, family. All are a friendly bunch and welcome other members to join in the conversation and banter.”*

**Members are politely reminded of the importance of coming to the social room to sign in.**

*John Chamberlin* – Editor

### The Carpentry Workshop:

*“The woodwork shop continues to develop. Rob Fielding and his team of 3 or 4 regular members are doing a wonderful job in the sourcing, collecting, and sorting any donations of tools, equipment, and wood. It goes without saying that any member will be made more than welcome. You may well come away with new skills or pass your own skills on to others. Just take yourself out there to see what’s on offer, you might be very surprised.*

*These pictures show what you can learn – David Payne built this exterior cat box, and Mark Tindale made these for fun on the lathe with Rob’s instruction”.*

*John Chamberlin* – Editor



### The Computer Room:

*“Hello fellow Techies,*

*Well, here we are again, getting to end of the year with Christmas just around the corner and looking forward to a well-earned rest from our beloved WMS, but fear not, we will be back in the New Year 2024 to help you if we can, should any problems occur. I would like to thank members of the shed for all their support and donations to the computer group throughout the year, you have all helped us to be able to raise funds for WMS, BIG THANK YOU.*

*I would like to mention it was nice to see new members joining the Shed, I hope they would like to consider joining the Computer Group one day, we always welcome your input to the group.*

*All that remains is to wish you all a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2024 from the Current Computer Group: John Bunning, John Brinklow, Dean Betts, Mark Heath, Peter Stokes, Nick Clare, Mike Briggs, and my-self.*

*Look forward to seeing you all next year, the Computer Group returns on the 4th of January 2024.*

*Till the next time”*

*Jeff Heath* - Computer Group Supervisor - email: [jefferyheath2017@yahoo.com](mailto:jefferyheath2017@yahoo.com)





# The Shed Journal



## Trivia, Quiz & Puzzle corner:

After more than 2 years I feel it is time to replace the 'This Month in History, Birthdate & 6 W's quiz' sections. These will now be replaced with a themed 20 question quiz. Other sections will remain.

It's all in the game			
1	In which game would you perform an 'En Passant' manoeuvre?	11	Name the area of a 'Backgammon' board that holds the captured pieces.
2	In '9 Man's Morris' what are three consecutive friendly pieces in a row called?	12	What is the highest scoring hand in a game of 'Cribbage'?
3	Which game includes a 'Candlestick' as a piece?	13	In which game would you be playing 'Eight Ball'?
4	What do the Americans call 'Noughts & Crosses'?	14	What number is opposite the 20 on a standard dart board?
5	How many squares are there on a 'Halma' board?	15	In which game would you hear the term 'Misère Ouverte'?
6	How many stations are there on a standard 'Monopoly' board?	16	Name the game that uses 5 stones and a small ball.
7	In which game do you start off with a 'Tower' of wooden blocks?	17	Give another name for the dealer at a 'Roulette' table.
8	If you 'Huff' somebody, what are you likely to be playing?	18	If you announced a Chow, Pung, or Kong what would you be playing?
9	Give the only 2 'Scrabble' tiles that are each worth 8 points?	19	In which game would you find 'Mr Block the Barber'?
10	Where, predominately would you find a 'Baulk line'?	20	What are the scoring sections on a 'Shove Halfpenny' board called?

<p><b>Sporting chance:</b></p> <p>Currently, which is the only city in the world to have hosted the Summer Olympics three times.</p>	<p><b>Music, Arts or Literature:</b></p> <p>Which author wrote: 'To Kill a Mockingbird'?</p>	<p><b>Quote:</b></p> <p><i>"I have always found that mercy bears richer fruits than strict justice".</i> .... <b>Abraham Lincoln</b></p>	<p><b>Proverb:</b></p> <p><i>Life is an echo. What you send comes back, what you sow you reap, what you give you get back, what you see in others exists in you. Remember life is an echo it always gets back to you. So always give good things.</i></p>
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## Last thoughts:

<p><b>That's odd:</b></p> <p>Give the odd one out:</p> <p>Windsor, Gainsborough, Bath, Chesterfield, Luton, Glastonbury</p>	<p><b>Can I have a word.</b></p> <p>Give the meaning of the word: 'Ephemeral'</p>	<p><b>MIA</b></p> <p>Give the missing item: Canines, Premolars, Molars, ?</p>
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*"Answers are shown on the last page, please advise of any typos or errors."*

John Chamberlin - Editor





## Social programme:

Our Social Secretary is very adept at organising an excellent programme of events throughout the year. Malcolm is, however, open to suggestions and ideas for future events and outings from the membership, so please put your thinking caps on for 2024. Suggestions to Malcolm please.

[Malcolm Trayhorn](mailto:malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com) - 01953 529531 - email: [malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com](mailto:malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com)

## Recent events:

On Tuesday 5th December 54 members and guests had a coach trip to the Thursford show. It was a fabulous evening out with a truly entertaining show. A perfect start to Christmas.

## Upcoming Social Calendar:

The social programme is now starting to wind down for the year.

Event	Date	Venue	Time	Estimated cost
Christmas Meal	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Barn Rouché	7pm for 7:30 meal	£27 pp
Mulled Wine & Mince Pie Event	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Sports Centre Bowls Room	10:00 – 13:00 Just drop-in	FREE
Birmingham Military Tattoo	Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Birmingham via coach	TBA	£30 inc. coach

## Social Report

### Christmas meal – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

We have 56 members and guests attending Barn Ruche. Please arrive from 7pm for a 7:30pm meal.

### Mince Pies and Mulled Wine - Monday 18th December

There will be Mulled wine and Mince pies for all members, their partners, and their guests between 10am and 1pm. Mulled wine, orange juice, apple juice, coffee and tea will be on offer free of charge. Offers of mince pies are welcome (only 6 required) but please let me know so we don't get too many for the number attending. Also let me know numbers coming, if not already notified on noticeboard.

### Birmingham Tattoo – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Last Call for this trip. I have 20 seats set aside for members, partners, and guests. The subsidised price is £30 each. Names to me soonest please so I can confirm the trip with the coach company.

A programme of events for 2024 will be announced in the New Year

[Malcolm Trayhorn](mailto:malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com) - 01953 529531 - email: [malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com](mailto:malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com)





## Member groups:

### Editor's note on groups:

*"Do you have an idea for a similar group? For example: A walking group, a book or cycling club, games group, maybe a common hobby or interest then please email the idea - [bjcoi8@gmail.com](mailto:bjcoi8@gmail.com) and I will publish it here. Such groups will be fully supported by the committee but arranged and run solely by the interested members."*

**Note:** *"A group does not have to be several members; you may just find one other like-minded individual to start with and others may well join you later."*

### The Shutterist's:



*Now for my pre-amble this month, I wish to help my fellow members. We all know how expensive our hobby is and as many wives, partners and family members read and enjoy the WMS Journal it is perfectly placed to offer a List to Santa. Not so subtle hints as follows, but without naming names... I know of several Shutterists in need of a Macro Lens. Others would love a Lightweight Tripod. How about some Filters for those wishing to take long exposures. You guys know who you are and now hopefully your loved ones will talk to Santa.*

## (1). Group Outings - The Photo Walk

### (a). Weybourne – a Foray onto Norfolk Coast – Thursday 16th November

An event kindly organised by Mr Bob Darts, and attended by 8 Shed Shutterists, and reported by Bob as:

#### **"A Damp Incursion....."**

*As a result of recent successful forays our intrepid group made the long haul to the north coast of our beautiful county and set their sights on the coastal village of Weybourne in an attempt to capture the wild seascapes for which this location is renown. The purpose of this visit was to photograph the stunning beauty of this part of the coastline, showcasing its unique features, landscapes, and the dynamic interplay of light and water. It was chosen for its scenic diversity, that included cliffs, pebble beach, and large waves of the ever-changing sea as it met the shore.*

*However, as our band of valiant "Shutterists" arrived at the designated rendezvous point it became immediately apparent that they were to face their most daunting of challenges.... north Norfolk coastal fine rain which would, in a very short space of time (excuse the pun), dampen their spirits.*

*So, after a taking a number of hastily composed photographs, a meeting was called, and it was agreed that a controlled and orderly withdrawal to the nearby Norfolk Wildlife Trust Visitor Centre at Cley for warming refreshments was called for. A very pleasant hour was then spent exploring the centre during which time the landlady of the "Dun Cow" Public House at Salthouse was contacted who agreed to bring forward our lunchtime booking.*

*At this hostelry a very fine selection from the menu was made available and together with suitable liquid refreshments lunch was served much to the satisfaction of our heroic party. It was pleasing to see them heartily tucking into their choices which ranged from 'Lamb burgers, mussels, guinea fowl and meatballs'.*

*Despite the weather the foray to Weybourne was a resounding success, yielding a collection of captivating images that effectively conveyed the beauty and diversity of the coastline in difficult conditions. The combination of unique geological features, diverse ecosystems, and the interplay of natural elements provided a rich tapestry for creative exploration. The challenges faced during the morning were overcome through careful planning and adaptability, resulting in a portfolio of photographs that truly captured the essence of this unique location on the North Norfolk Coast."*

Unfortunately, John Pepper could not attend the 'Foray' but kindly agreed to cast his eye over the 8 entries and offered his deliberations as follows;



## **GOLD**

### **Misty Cliffs**

**Gold award: shot by  
Neil Rowe**

Not sure how the elevation was achieved on this shot, but it made for a great picture. The depth of the image was superb.



## **SILVER**

### **Misty Distance**

**Silver award: shot by  
Grahame Andrews**

Was a very close second for me. The cliffs disappearing into the mist made for a very atmospheric shot. The breaking waves at the front enabled the viewer to gauge just how rough the day had been on the day.



## **JOINT BRONZE**

### **Seaweed**

**Bronze award: shot by  
John Parling**

The colour in the shingle bringing out the colour of the seaweed.





## JOINT BRONZE

Shoreline Wash

Bronze award: shot by  
**John Ford**

The breaking wave was a good action shot of the conditions on



**Well done chaps.... "ONWARDS AND UPWARDS."**

Neil Rowe will be presented with the 'The Terry Knight Trophy' in due course.

All entries can be seen in the 'Shutterists Photo Album for November

Again, thanks to Bob Darts for arranging the trip.

### **(2). 2023 – Monthly Challenge**

The 12-month WMS Artistic Challenge takes place as a tribute to **Terry Knight**, one of our original photo group members who sadly passed away in 2019.

#### **Month 11 – November**

The monthly challenge is based on a twelve-letter word.

**THE LETTER FOR OCTOBER WAS THE LETTER: 'O'**

Entries, a total of 16, which can all be seen in the Shutterist Album for November

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS - HERE ARE THEIR ENTRIES

## GOLD

Only in Autumn

Gold Award: shot by  
**Graeme Hale**





## SILVER

Oranges, yellows,  
reds, and browns

Silver award: shot by  
**John Ford**



## BRONZE

Owl time, 5 past 9

Bronze award: shot by  
**John Ford**



### ***The 2023 Monthly Challenge – Summary of what it's about.***

#### **Photographers:**

Entry(s) can be one colour and / or one black & white – can be different photo or same.

*Photo must be taken in that month and title must start with the Letter of the month.*

All members of the Shutterists, whether entered that month or not, get six votes.

*Remember though - It's for fun... but it is a challenge.*

#### **Other mediums:**

WMS artistic talent (in other 'Art Forms' such as charcoal sketch, water-colour, acrylic, pottery etc...) choose your medium and enter accordingly. Please also refer to last page of The Shutterists Album – gives great stats...

### **(3). What's coming up for the Shutterists...**

#### **Monthly Outings**

**Planned – one trip for December, so far.**

- **Norwich – Date and arrangements to be agreed.**  
Outing will probably combine Rosary Cemetery and Norwich centre for Christmas Lights, low-light photography, and food / drink. *A trip being kindly arranged by Mr Bob Darts*
- **More ad-hoc trips (maybe)... watch your inbox and / or the Shed Notice board.**
- **Monthly Challenge – December will be the Letter 'S'.**



# The Shed Journal



## **An aide memoir re the WMS Shutterists**

As a reminder to all Members, The WMS Shutterists are predominantly an 'Artistic Group', however cameras / pencils / paints are not a pre-requisite for trips out. The Shutterists welcome all fellow members of WMS to come and enjoy our outings. It is generally a good walk in beautiful East Anglia, nearly always with the odd coffee, beer, wine, lunch, dinner thrown in for goodwill.

Join the Shutterists, which is huge fun, and allow those creative juices to flow...

**Interested?** Contact [Stewart Haile](#) - Shutterist's group lead - 07775 694099 - email: [shaile33@aol.com](mailto:shaile33@aol.com)

## **Shanties at the Shed:**

*"The December Shanty Group rehearsals were largely devoted to revision of some of the newer songs added to our repertoire; however, a start was also made on the well-known shanty 'The Wellerman'. This was the shanty that went viral on TikTok, and which helped to rekindle interest in the genre amongst a wider audience. The group's repertoire has increased at a good pace throughout 2023 and, as confidence levels have increased, it has taken less time to learn new songs.*

*However, whilst this is a positive thing, it has become more difficult to keep all the songs in the repertoire well-rehearsed. With the goal of becoming more consistent in our singing, the emphasis in coming months will be on keeping the songs we already know up to speed and slowing the introduction of new songs. In this way we hope to be able to respond quickly to any gigs we may be offered in the coming year.*

*We have 9 regular members of the Shanty Group. Whilst we always strive to perform to our best ability, the emphasis is always on enjoyment. We would gladly welcome any new members both as singers (and I use that word in its loosest sense!) or accompanists. The more we have in our ranks the better we will sound. So, if you, if you would like to step forward and join our crew, please let me know. You don't have to be a good singer or read music – you will be made most welcome.*

*The next sessions will be on Monday 8th January and Wednesday 17th January 2024 in the back room behind the bar starting as soon as possible after 10 o'clock. Why not come along and give it a go Please don't forget to sign in and pay the usual £2 session fee. "*

**Interested?** Contact [Nigel Potter](#) – Shanty group lead - email: [silveralto@gmail.com](mailto:silveralto@gmail.com)

## **The Music Club:**

*"Fourteen Sheddors turned up to December's Music Club meeting which was held in the cosy setting of the bar. Reflecting the time of the year, the theme for the month was 'Christmas'. This resulted in an interesting and varied selection that managed to avoid the festive pop songs that are played endlessly on the radio in the run up to Christmas.*

*The top five most popular tunes of the day were:*

- 1. 'I've Got my Love to Keep Me Warm' performed by Bette Midler (93 votes)*
- 2. 'Little Drummer Boy' performed by Prague Philharmonic Orchestra with the Crouch End Chorus (90 votes)*
- 3. 'Mele Kalikimaka' performed by Bing Crosby / Andrews Sisters (85 votes)*
- 4. 'Driving Home for Christmas' performed by Jazz at the Movies (83 votes)*
- 5. 'Santa Baby' performed by Eartha Kitt (75 votes)*

*The Club is open to all Shed Members to either bring along their own tracks to play or just to listen to the selections of others. All genres of music are welcome. For the January meeting the theme is 'Guitar Heroes'; however, this is purely optional, and members are not restricted from bringing along any track of their choice for listening.*

*The Music Club meets on a monthly basis – normally the first Wednesday in the month starting as soon as possible after 10 o'clock. The next listening session will be on 3rd January 2024. Please don't forget to sign in and pay the usual £2 session fee."*

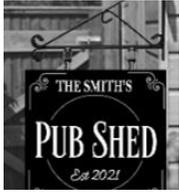
**Interested?** Contact [Nigel Potter](#) – Music club lead - email: [silveralto@gmail.com](mailto:silveralto@gmail.com)



# The Shed Journal



## Car Pub Club:



## Wayland Men's Shed Car Pub Club



### Event Number 10: Sculthorpe Mill Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023

In summary, Sculthorpe Mill received the **lowest overall score**.

As a result, it sits at the bottom on the Car Pub Club Scoring Matrix for 2023, scoring the least points from all venues visited by the WMS Car Pub Club this year.

Generally, we suffered poor service, a menu that lacked choice, small portions and on the whole, we did not receive a warm welcome. In addition, it was a double shame as Event 10 had the most Car Pub Club attendees.

Our experience was very disappointing. It came as somewhat a bad surprise as the 'On-line' reviews were highly positive and the sample menu on their web page looked really good. I do not believe that any of our Car Pub Clubbers will be recommending this venue to their friends or family. A real shame.

Scoring details as follows;

<b>Name of Establishment:</b>		<b>Sculthorpe Mill</b>				<b>Event 10</b>	
<b>Time and Date of Visit:</b>		12:45 on 17th November 2023					
<b>Number of WMS Members / Partners:</b>		10					
<b>Car Scores</b>	<b>150 out of a possible 200</b>	75.00%					
<b>Pub Scores</b>	<b>163 out of a possible 300</b>		54.33%				
	<b>Enjoyable Drive</b>	<b>Distance &amp; Parking</b>	<b>Menu &amp; Price</b>	<b>Food Quality</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Total Average Score</b>	<b>Overall Car Pub Club Rating</b>
<b>Avg Scores</b>	7.5	7.5	3.9	6.2	6.2	31.30	<b><u>62.60%</u></b>

Two positives, I would point out though;

We felt that even with the disappointment of the venue we all had a great time in great company and with fellow like-minded souls.

The other positive, which I add somewhat tongue in cheek, is that the scores offer Sculthorpe Mill ninth position with regards to the car element of the scores. Last, and Tenth Place goes to The Recruiting Sergeant which was mainly down by adverse weather and driving conditions on that day – but do look, and focus, on their food scores!

**Interested?** Contact [Stewart Haile](mailto:Stewart.Haile@carpubclub.co.uk) - Car Pub Club lead - 07775 694099 - email: [shaile33@aol.com](mailto:shaile33@aol.com)





## Other News, Notices, Events & Interesting Articles:

### Christmas and New Year Opening Days

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – Mulled Wine Event 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – 9 a.m. – noon (Social room)

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December** – 9 a.m. – noon (Workshops)

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December – CLOSED**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December** – 9 a.m. – noon (Social room)

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024** – 9 a.m. – noon (Social room)

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December onward – Normal opening**

### Analogue line switch off 2025.

This article is no definitive, it's just for initial heads-up information for you to pursue.

Many people are inquiring about the upcoming switch-off of analogue phone lines, scheduled to begin from 2025. Understandably, there's some confusion and concern, especially with aggressive sales tactics from the larger players in the market exaggerating the situation and offering long-term contracts. None of it is as daunting as it seems.

Firstly, with the switch to digital, broadband costs are expected to decrease since the need for separate line rental fees will be eliminated. This change will affect both residential and business lines.

Traditionally, most properties used copper phone lines. Openreach has upgraded parts of this network with fibre, and in some cases, full fibre from the exchange to premises has been implemented. Post-2025, some copper lines will remain but solely for internet connectivity. This means the physical phone line won't carry a traditional phone number or dial tone; its primary function will be to connect your router.

Analog and ISDN phone systems will cease to work, with all telecommunications transitioning to internet-based solutions like VoIP. The good news is that existing phone numbers can be transferred to your VoIP account, often leading to lower monthly bills. While there's an initial cost for new handsets, the benefits include:

- Multiple numbers ringing into the same system without engaged tones.
- Handling multiple calls concurrently.
- Optional call recording.
- A variety of headsets and handsets.
- Access to switchboards.
- Voicemail to email services.
- Shared address books.
- Remote use of phones with an internet connection.
- Integration with mobile devices via apps for remote working.
- Lower call costs with affordable call packages.
- Detailed call statistics.
- Fax to email (both ways)

There are two main VoIP systems:

**Hosted** – Ideal for small to medium businesses, with the control box in the cloud. Each line costs approximately £7 per month.

**Onsite** – The PBX control box is onsite, offering more features and control, best for larger setups. Monthly costs are lower, around £6 per line, based on the number of concurrent calls.

Feel free to reach out with any questions. My advice is to avoid long-term contracts exceeding 12 months due to the evolving nature of this technology. There's no immediate rush, but planning should ideally begin before the end of next year. If you have a slow broadband connection, this will need addressing before the switchover.

**Jason Pink.**

Anglia Computer Solutions Business Ltd



## Christmas Work Experience – A story written and submitted by [Wayne Rutter](#)

Dale was an unusual child, he was fourteen, loved school, hated football, and inconceivably still believed in Father Christmas. His teachers always claimed his head was up in the clouds, but he couldn't help it as he was one of life's day dreamers. He lived with his mum and three sisters in a small flint faced cottage on the edge of Thetford Forest and dreamed of helping the world. It was a warm sunny afternoon in July when he arrived home from school and handed his mum a letter headed with the school's logo of a stag.

"You've got to find work experience for November" declared his mum with a resigned sigh, where on Earth was Dale going to fit in. "Maybe Janet can get you a spot in her supermarket" she said with no conviction that Dale would ever agree to that.

"I've had an idea; I just need to send a letter" said Dale as he rushed off to his bedroom in the eaves of the cottage. Mum just shook her head in puzzlement.

Dale threw himself down on his bed and grabbed his notebook from his small desk. His idea was brilliant, and no one was going to do a better work experience than him. He was concentrating so hard on his letter that the tip of his tongue was dancing across his bottom lip he then heard a voice from behind saying.

"Oh, Dale what are you doing still writing to Santa? You are too old to believe in him" Dale's older sister Debbie was looking over his shoulder from the doorway. She flounced her hair and bellowed "MUM, DALE IS WRITING TO SANTA AGAIN...IN JULY" Dale heard his mum pounding up the creaky staircase.

"Dale please don't tell me you are writing to Santa about work experience" she asked breathlessly.

"So, what if I am...it will be the best work experience ever".

"Dale, you know we like to humour you, but you are old enough to know Father Christmas doesn't exist".

"He does exist and I'm doing work experience with him you'll see".

"You'll end up with no work experience and you will have to work with Janet" Dale went pale at the idea of spending any time with mum's scary friend Janet, it filled him with dread. He was sure she was a real witch; she even had a hairy wart on her large chin.

"I'm doing it with Santa and that's it" said Dale as he folded his letter. "I'm dropping this off in the post box now" and off he raced.

The next few months past in the normal manner with mum too nervous to raise the subject of work experience until an unassuming early morning in September. Dale woke up to the sound of his alarm clock, a plastic Christmas tree shaped monstrosity that played 'We wish you a merry Christmas' every morning all year. On his desk was a small red letter sealed with a wax seal. The letter was addressed simply -

TO DALE, THE COTTAGE, NEAR THETFORD FOREST

The seal had an image of a reindeer. He grabbed the letter and raced downstairs.

"Mum, mum look this letter was left on my desk" mum took the letter, read the front, and handed it back.

"Open and see what it says" Dale broke the seal and opened the letter.

Dear Dale

Thank you very much for your letter regarding work experience with the Christmas team. This is a very unusual request, and you are the first person to ask this of us here at North Pole inc. We have consulted with the managing director (Santa) and would be pleased to offer you a role in the packaging department under elf supervisor Stanley Baubling. An executive transport vehicle will collect you on the first morning of your work experience, please be waiting in your garden at 7.30am. We no longer use the chimney extraction method as many new homes no longer have them and unfortunately Santa has had a few visits to the Elf and Safety department here at the North Pole inc headquarters. I do hope you have no fear of heights as the reindeer do fly very high, safety belts must be worn at all times and sick bags will be provided (more details in Sledge Safety leaflet VI, provided on take-off). We look forward to your reply and with that in mind the quickest method of communication with us is either by our email address at [santa@northpole.inc](mailto:santa@northpole.inc) or a burnt letter over an open fire addressed to Santa. Many thanks

Yours Faithfully

Midgeley Tinselton, Chief Elf and North pole inc HR director.

Dale smiled at his surprised mum "See I am going to have the best work experience ever."



# The Shed Journal



## Co-op Grant:



As reported last month we have been selected as a recipient of the community funds for the coming year by co-op customers donating to our cause when they shop. As the nearest store is at Dereham we need to promote this project as much as possible. I have placed a notice board in the store in Dereham High Street so have a look next time you are in Dereham.



## Defibrillators:



There are **two** Defibrillators in the Sports Centre. Please make yourself familiar with **both** locations.

The first is located at the far end of the Bowls Club Room. The second is located just outside the Lounge Bar, just off reception.



## It's All in the Game:



Left is a new venture that the sports Centre are trying to launch. Please make your interest (if any) known to a member of staff at the Sports Centre Reception.

Right is a similar venture starting up at the Kings Arms in Middle Street, Watton. The Breckland Boardgamers.

I'll leave interested members to make their own investigations.



## Prostate cancer:



The UKMSA recently hosted a session with Professor Mark Emberton who is a world leader on the subject of Prostate cancer. The lecture is available on you tube and well worth a look. It will tell you everything you might want to know. Paste this link into your address bar.

[Shedding Light on Prostate Cancer with World Leading Professor Mark Emberton - YouTube](#)

## Trusted Traders: **(Come on chaps, I'm sure some of you must have entries)**

This regular section (if populated) will list traders that you can either recommend using or to avoid based on the overall experience. Please send me a brief description of traders that you have used including the headings below, stating why you either recommend them or not. email [bjcoi8@gmail.com](mailto:bjcoi8@gmail.com)

I shall list them here for 3 months before letting them drop off the list.

<b>Name:</b> <b>Profession:</b> <b>Pricing:</b> <b>Reliability:</b>	<b>Quality:</b> <b>Pros/cons:</b> <b>Submitted by:</b>
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## Money Helper:



In this age of financial uncertainty, I thought it a good idea to point members in the direction of this website: - [www.moneyhelper.org.uk](http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk). It is a government backed site covering all aspects of financial advice i.e., support, assistance, and guidance. Have a look and see what you think.



## The Happy Shopper:



**Editor's note:** Can you recommend or debunk an item purchased or the shop from which it was bought? If you have a piece, then please send it to me [bjcoi8@gmail.com](mailto:bjcoi8@gmail.com) (No War and Peace please).

## UK Men's Shed Association (UKMSA):



To find out more about the UKMSA, **type** or, **cut and paste** this link into your address bar. This will take you to the November issue of 'Shoulder to Shoulder', the UKMSA magazine. <https://mailchi.mp/ukmsa.org.uk/shoulder-to-shoulder-october-15728498?e=ebbf6a7512>

## Boots Watton Closure:



Members may or may not be aware that Boots Pharmacy in Watton high Street is closing on 5th January 2024.

As an alternative there is a Boots branch in Hingham. A further option might be to have your prescriptions delivered. There are several companies that will arrange for this to be done, notably 'Lloyds Direct' pharmacy. This will however require you to be reasonably competent using the internet.

## Local events 2023/24:



**Please email me the details of any event you hear about in Breckland: -**  
[bjcoi8@gmail.com](mailto:bjcoi8@gmail.com)

Date	Event	Location	Time
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Big Christmas Party	Watton Sports Centre	TBA
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup> December	Our Family Christmas Party	Watton Sports Centre	TBA

## Men's Shed – We care:

Members of our shed have a variety of reasons for being a member.



- Having other male companionship.
- Reducing the feeling of loneliness.
- Meeting up with others.
- A way of making new friends.

Whatever the reason there is plenty of evidence that our shed is making a difference.

It has come to my attention through recent events that there are men in the area who are desperately in need of support and may not always be able to attend our meeting room.

Would any members, who are able, be prepared to visit a vulnerable male once or twice a week at their home? If you feel that you may be able to assist, please contact me and I will give more information.

*Malcolm Trayhorn* – Chairman - email: [malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com](mailto:malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com)

## Wanted, For Sale & Free Notices:



Do you have an item for sale, for free or are you looking for something in particular? Please feel free to email the editor - [bjcoi8@gmail.com](mailto:bjcoi8@gmail.com) with a price, picture, also include a brief description of the item along with your contact details. I shall endeavour to list the item here.

**Note:** All transactions are **strictly** between two parties. WMS does **not** endorse nor guarantee any items sold.





# The Shed Journal



## Business, Administration & Housekeeping matters:

### Shed opening days and times 2023:

Social Room - Mondays and Wednesdays 09:00 till 12:00.  
Woodwork Shop - Mondays and Thursdays 09:00 till 12:00.  
Computer Room – Mondays and Thursdays 09:00 till 12:00.

### Housekeeping:



Please assist other members and the committee by keeping the shed tidy and helping with general tasks.

### WMS Website:



Our website address is: [www.waylandmensshed.co.uk](http://www.waylandmensshed.co.uk).

Members are encouraged to visit the site and have a look around. The site is continually undergoing updates and our thanks go to Neil Rowe for his continued efforts. Constructive comments, suggestions or ideas for improvement and potential new content are very welcome. Just approach Neil or any committee member.

### Facebook:



WMS has a group page – currently with around 17 members:

[www.facebook.com/groups/5797251266956413](https://www.facebook.com/groups/5797251266956413)

**Note:** The above page should not be confused with a similar page, this was an earlier iteration from the days of our formation, this legacy page is **NOT** updated by the Men's Shed.

## CALL TO ARMS

*“Is there a member amongst you that is a **Facebook Guru**? If there is, then perhaps you would rally to the cause for your Mens Shed. We really do need our Facebook page updated and maintained with what we have on offer with our current facilities/groups etc. I’m certain that it’s not an onerous task and it would help us to get the word out to more people. You will have the full support of the committee and be supplied with the necessary information that you would require. So, come on board and ease us into the world of social media.”*

*John Chamberlin*

### Health & Safety:



It is important that we know how many members are in attendance. **Please ensure that you visit the Main Hall to sign-in, do not just go to the Workshop/Computer rooms.**

All members have a duty of care for themselves and others whilst on the premises. Should you become aware of any issues please ensure that you inform a committee member at once. All accidents and Incidents should be recorded in the ledgers provided; they're located in the filing cabinet in the workshop.

### Your elected committee:

Malcolm Trayhorn: Chairman, Social Secretary & Press Neil Rowe: Secretary & Website John Chamberlin: Treasurer, Memberships & Journal	Gordon Williams: Vice Chairman Jeffrey Heath: Tech supervisor	John Bunning: Tech assistant Rob Fielding: Workshop supervisor
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### Committee meeting:

Next committee meeting will be on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 3pm in the Sports Centre.

Should any member wish to submit an item for discussion by the committee please email your request direct to the chairman. [Malcolm Trayhorn](mailto:malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com) - email: [malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com](mailto:malcolm.trayhorn@gmail.com)

The meeting welcomes 'observers' from the membership, they can submit questions and/or signal their wish to attend to the secretary. [Neil Rowe](mailto:neilr101@btinternet.com) - email: [neilr101@btinternet.com](mailto:neilr101@btinternet.com)



# The Shed Journal



## Committee note:

The minutes of all committee meetings are available for perusal in the minute book at the shed, therefore a draft copy **will not** be individually distributed to shed members. However, should any member require an e-copy, they may request the same on application to the secretary.

## Treasurers Report:

*“There is nothing new to add to what I have previously reported over the past few months.*

*Full, yearly & monthly accounts may be examined, and any questions answered upon application to myself.”*

*John Chamberlin* – Treasurer – email: [bjcoi8@gmail.com](mailto:bjcoi8@gmail.com)

## Memberships Report:

*“Our ranks continue to grow and has now reached 83, this adds five new members. We warmly welcome Dave Cooper, Paul Hayes-Griffin, Andy Ogilvie, Stephen Williams, and Stephen Worth. Sadly, we lost Martin Lavers, one of our early members.”*

*John Chamberlin* – Membership Secretary – email: [bjcoi8@gmail.com](mailto:bjcoi8@gmail.com)

## Quiz and Puzzle solutions:

Quiz answers - It's all in the game.							
1	Chess	6	4	11	The Bar	16	Jacks
2	A Mill	7	Jenga	12	29	17	Croupier
3	Cluedo	8	Draughts/Chequers	13	Pool	18	Mahjong
4	Tic-Tac-Toe	9	'J' and 'X'	14	3	19	Happy Families
5	256	10	Billiards/Snooker tables	15	Solo	20	Beds

- Sport:** London. Paris will host for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in 2024, followed by Los Angeles in 2028.
- Music, Arts & Literature:** Harper Lee. She published only 2 books in her lifetime, 'To Kill a Mockingbird' and 'Go Set a Watchman'. Even though it was published 55 years after the 'Mockingbird'.
- That's odd:** Luton. The others are types of chairs.
- Word:** Fleeting or short-lived, like a fly that might live for one day. Originally a medical term with the specific meaning "lasting only one day," as a fever or sickness (Hemera means "day" in Greek.)
- MIA:** Incisors. Most adults have 32 teeth, including 8 incisors, 4 canines, 8 premolars and 12 molars.

Please visit our website: [www.waylandmensshed.co.uk](http://www.waylandmensshed.co.uk) which is regularly updated.

You can also contact us via email: [waylandmensshed@gmail.com](mailto:waylandmensshed@gmail.com)

If you wish to make a compliment, complaint, or comment, please feel free to do so. Without constructive feedback it is very difficult for the WMS Committee to know if they are meeting member's expectations.

**Disclaimer** - The information contained within The Shed Journal is for general information purposes only and assumes no responsibility for any errors or omissions in the content. In no event is the editor or other members of WMS liable for special, direct, indirect, consequential, or incidental damages arising out of or in connection with the content. We reserve the right to make additions, deletions, or modifications to the contents at any time without prior notice. Any views or opinions either explicit or implied are NOT the views or opinions of either the Wayland Men's Shed or the editor.

