

APPENDIX 1

OSCr

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	1st	February	2023	To	31st	January	2024

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

Charity name
Other names charity is known by
Registered charity number
Charity's principal address

Ellon and District Men's Shed
SC044586
Hospital Road
Ellon
Postcode AB41 9AW

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Andy Leonard	Chairman		AGM election
2	Colin Gibb	Vice Chairman		"
3	Bill Kerr	Secretary		"
4	Andy Leonard	Treasurer		"
5	Ronnie Gair	Trustee		"
6	Ian Elder	Trustee	17/11/2023	"
7	Sandy Burnett	Trustee		"
8	Duncan Macrae	Trustee	23/4/2024	"
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Type of governing document

Constitution

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Nominations at AGM and co-options at other times.

Charitable purposes

The purpose of the organisation is to provide recreational facilities and advance the social needs, health and well being of men of all ages and backgrounds living in Ellon and surrounding area

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

- a) Creating, developing and maintaining a facility, namely a Men's Shed.
- b) Offering opportunities for men in the Ellon area to meet and undertake creative, physical, purposeful and recreational activities of their choice.
- c) Reducing isolation of men in the area thus contributing to their physical and mental wellbeing.
- d) Developing the capacity of men in the Ellon area to share their skills and knowledge with others in the community.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period

The last year has been another busy one for the Shed – we've had a good number of new members and visitor numbers are back to pre-Covid visitor numbers. We've made significant changes to the workshops and increased the Activities that the members can do.

As always, I would like to thank all the trustees for their help and hard work over the last year. We do have vacancies for Trustees on the board and would welcome new faces and new ideas.

In terms of membership and visitor numbers – total membership now stands at 206, of course many are infrequent visitors or 'sleeping members'. We have a good number (over 40) of 'core' members who attend on a regular basis. In terms of visits to the Shed this has shown a progressive increase over the last 3 years – the average visits per week was 16 in 2020; 23 in 2021, 38 in 2022 and 47 in 2023. As I mentioned last year, we also several of people who visit the Shed show a great deal of enthusiasm but don't return. We need to try and understand why this is the case.

Sadly, we lost two Shed members this year - Robert Bruce and Gordon Mincher. Robert was fairly new to the Shed but was enthusiastically getting involved and the Shed was becoming an import part of his life. Gordon was a long-term member, a former Trustee, a very regular attendee and someone we all respected and regarded as a friend. We were honoured by both their family's making significant donations to their Shed, gifting us the donations made at the funerals.

The main activities of members continues to be woodworking, furniture refurbishment, and gardening but we have a significant other activities: bike restoration, 3D printing, picture framing and model railway. Examples of items made includes: benches, log stores, bird tables, signposts, hedgehog boxes, tortoise house, wooden mushrooms, house signs and window boxes. We have restored or repaired a wide range of items including old picture frames, a WWI ditty box, a Triang pedal car (thanks to Bill Higgins for most of the work) and furniture.

Indoor workspace continues to be a challenge for us. We finished the partition in the portacabin to separate the CNC from picture framing, model making etc.. We finished installing the garden shed and have re-jigged bike storage using £400 grant from Rotary.

We continue to upgrade equipment in the workshops when we get the opportunity – swapping out a Record Power lathe for a better version. We have completely revamped the extraction and ventilation system for the workshop – thanks to Charlie for his significant efforts doing this.

The CNC machine that we acquired in 2022 is getting more use. There is a significant learning curve for those wanting to use it and John Urquhart and Charlie Forest have been training others, creating bespoke items and running demonstrations at the Open Day. Ralph Watson is now using the machine to create bespoke tables for his bonsai trees.

We received numerous donations of tools (manual and powered) through the year. Where appropriate we use them ourselves or we offer them to other sheds, members or to Tools for Africa.

On the gardening front the polytunnel was well used last summer – with lots of tomatoes and other veg. And Richard Jones has used one of the greenhouses to grow heritage tomatoes – lovely they are too. Several Shed members and their wives helped out at the opening of Parkvilla Garden in Ellon under the Scotland Garden Scheme on the 8 & 9th July – to raise money for a number of charities (including the Shed). The Shed received £234.60. They helped out by serving teas/cakes and welcoming visitors on the day, and by baking cakes beforehand.

Harry Emslie has continued with his terrific gardening work at Ythanvale and has been largely responsible for maintaining their gardens. Thanks go to Harry who has done a terrific job at Ythanvale. In late April we had a surprise in the email – we were contacted by the George Crombie Trust who wished to award us £1200 to support our activities. This will be used to help fund our underlying running costs, which, like everyone else's, are increasing rapidly.

In terms of other funding we received a further £2900 in grant funding – which is great and helps remain in a healthy financial situation.

In terms of 'external' events. We held an open day 13th May giving visitors a chance to have a look round, see what we are doing, play with the railway and, of course, have tea, cake and burgers. On the 11th May we started a new initiative. We are working with Aberdeenshire, Community Learning and Development (CLD) Service to provide help with IT skills to those who would like help. We are acutely aware that IT/computer skills are needed for many important basic activities (eg booking NHS appointments, repeat prescriptions, shopping) and that many people struggle to master the skills. We are offering drop-in sessions (Thursdays at 1 – 2.30pm) for anyone who wants help. Aberchirder Men's Shed has very successfully offered this service to their community.

The drop in sessions run by Zuzi Jatelova have proved to be very popular – not least because of Zuzi's engaging and bubbly character! Following the example set by Aberchirder Shed, 2 of our members are going for SVQ qualifications so they can carry on and expand the training.

On 22nd June we hosted Ellon Probus for a summer BBQ with Duncan Rennie giving a coopering demonstration. The weather was kind, the burgers were excellent and Duncan gave an excellent demonstration.

On the 2nd December we held a pre-Christmas Open Day. A big thank you goes to Colin Gibb & Mike Bruce for their efforts making santas and to George Robb for his LED light ornaments.

We held two fund raising quizzes at McDonald Golf Club raising c £1350.

With the cost of living crisis affecting the pockets of many people. We again decided to the Shed as a 'Winter Café' for adults to come for warmth, company, refreshment and food. We opened from every second Wednesday through November until late February. Attendance was variable (zero to 20). To be honest few, if any, of those attending were 'needy' but on the busy days a good time was had by all.

To conclude, I look forward to the rest of 2024.

In our efforts to increase indoor workspace we submitted a pre-planning guidance request to Aberdeenshire Council Planning department for a new portacabin. We asked for guidance on 2 options – on top of the existing cabin and next to the current one (along the fence). The latter option was given a positive review (putting it on top of the current cabin was ruled out). We will now submit a full planning application (and offers to help would be gratefully received).

Assuming we get another portacabin it will mean a number of things:

- To manage the power supply we will investigate solar panels and a battery system
- We will need to re-jig car parking and likely shift disabled parking to immediately in front of the shed (so need to move the bike racks etc.)
- We will need to have a top to bottom review of how we use our indoor space – this might mean we will need to move some things around

We will also be forming a workshops users group who will work with the Workshop Supervisor to review how we use the workshop(s) and to make recommendations to the Board on the layout and equipment in the main workshop.

Our lease runs out in 2030. We have to submit a new CAT proposal to enter negotiations for a long term lease. For members have offered to help lead this process which is just getting underway.

We, with the help of John Urquhart, are in the process of reviewing our constitution – it needs to be brought up to date to make sure it isn't an obstacle to our CAT (or funding) applications.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We aim to maintain reserves amounting to c 3 months' running costs.

Details of any deficit

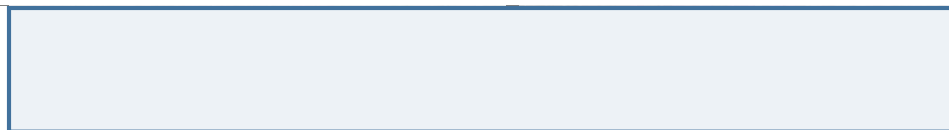
No deficits

Donated facilities and services (if any)

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Andrew Leonard

William Kerr

Position (e.g. Chair)

Chairman

Secretary

Date

06/09/2024

06/09/2024

ELLON & DISTRICT MEN'S SHED **SC044586**
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCLUDING RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT)
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

		Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	<i>Notes</i>	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
Grants	1	2,900	1,435	4,335	18,212
Donations		-	4,583	4,583	1,316
Receipts from Fundraising Activities		-	3,770	3,770	8,177
Receipts from Charitable Activities		-	7,685	7,685	4,353
Investment Income		-	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources		2,900	17,473	20,373	32,058
PAYMENTS					
Resources Expended for Fundraising		-	1,331	1,331	72
Resources Expended for Charitable Activities		5,102	16,884	21,985	31,533
Governance Costs - Independent Examination			180	180	108
Total Resources Expended		5,102	18,395	23,497	31,713
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) resources for Year		(2,202)	(922)	(3,124)	345
Total Funds at 1 February 2023		4,114	17,361	21,475	21,130
Total Funds at 31 January 2024		1,913	16,439	18,351	21,475

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year.
The above receipts and payments are split between restricted and unrestricted funds.

ELLON & DISTRICT MEN'S SHED
STATEMENT OF BALANCES
AS AT 31 JANUARY 2024

SC044586

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Cash and Bank Balances at 1 February 2023	4,114	17,361	21,475	21,130
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(2,202)	(922)	(3,124)	345
Cash and Bank Balances at 31 January 2024	1,913	16,439	18,351	21,475


Cash & Bank Balances as at 31 January 2024:

Treasurers Account	2,038.12
Account 2	15,834.07
Petty Cash in Hand	478.87
	<u>£18,351.06</u>

Fixed Assets

CNC Machine (Year 2/7)	£7,000.00
------------------------	------------------

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 30th September 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....

Trustee
Andrew Leonard
Chairman

ELLON & DISTRICT MEN'S SHED
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

SC044586

Nature & Purpose of Funds

The organisation successfully applied for funding for various projects and equipment with funding held as restricted and spent under the terms of the relevant funding agreements. Unrestricted funds consist of donations, fundraising and sales of new and refurbished items.

Trustee Remuneration & Expenses

No remuneration was paid during the period to any charity trustee or person connected to a trustee in this period.

Direct reimbursement of purchases on behalf of the organisation were paid to 8 trustees on submission of receipts. These payments amounted to £902.45.

Grants

1 Robertson Trust (running costs)	£2,000 (restricted)
Rotary Bike racks)	£400 (restricted)
Age Scotland Wee Grant (wood/metal)	£500 (restricted)
George Crombie Trust	£1,200 (unrestricted)
Scotland's Garden Scheme	£235 (unrestricted)
	£4,335

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Ellon & District Men's Shed
Registered Charity Number: SC044586**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st January 2024 which are set out on pages 7 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

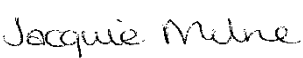
Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Name: Jacquie Milne

Designation: Finance & Administration Manager, Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action

Address: AVA, PO Box 18706, Peterhead, AB42 9BA

Date: 30 September 2024