

## Felixstowe Men's Shed Grant Report 2024

Men's Sheds are similar to garden sheds, a place to pursue practical interests at leisure, to practice skills and enjoy making and mending. The difference is that garden sheds are often solitary in nature while Men's Sheds are the opposite. They're about social connections and friendship building, sharing skills and knowledge and of course a lot of laughter. Sitting alone in your shed is not good for your health. Over 900 UK Men's Sheds are registered with the National Men's Shed Association.

Felixstowe Men's Shed has come a long way from our initial meeting in January 2018. We first held meetings in the summer house at Sanctuary Housing, later moving to a small, existing workshop courtesy of Felixstowe museum. Although this workshop got us off to a practical start it soon proved too small. In 2022 we were fortunate to move into a disused barn at Great Street Farm, High Road, Trimley St. Mary courtesy of Robin Hill at Bidwell's acting on behalf of Trinity College Cambridge. Much work has been done to create a well equipped workshop and special thanks must go to Felixstowe Town Council for helping to make this possible. Below are some of the projects undertaken in the past year both for the community and individuals.



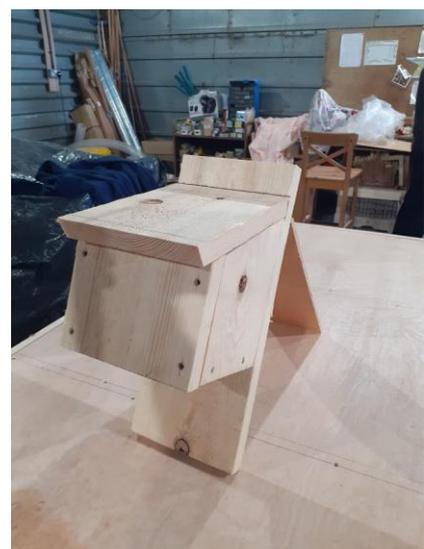
Wishing well for Merryfields Care Home



A new gate for the Hope Trust



Dinosaurs for the trail at Landguard Fort



170 Bat boxes for Suffolk Bat Group



A mud kitchen for SET Felixstowe primary school



School lectern



Restoration of Orwell High  
Part of a model railroad diorama



Sensory Board for Level Two projects

Wood turning has proved a very popular addition to the shed’s activities and it is with great appreciation to Felixstowe Town Council as well as Councilor Bird that we have been able to purchase a professional wood turning lathe. This lathe will enhance both capability and capacity of what members can produce.



Paul Askew  
Treasurer Felixstowe Men’s Shed