

Fochabers Men's Shed AGM 20th January 2026

Chairman's Report

I would like to welcome everyone to our AGM for the Fochabers Men's Shed and thank you all for attending.

As the Chairman I would like to take this opportunity to thank the rest of the Committee for their help and support over the last year.

This is a chance to reflect on all the work that we as a shed have done over the past year to make our Shed a success.

We again welcomed a few new members and hopefully we can add to that this year.

We are extremely fortunate to be able to use both the Institute workshops and the Cold Store for our projects, I want to acknowledge the flexibility of the Institute Manager Sam Noble, Gordon Christie and the Village Association for accommodating and supporting the Shed with our endeavours.

Projects for 2025 were ;

- * Making six chairs for disabled fencing group in Elgin which is ongoing
- * Repair of Bridge over Burn of Fochabers at the Quarters
- * Construction of a new Green Gate in Castle Street
- * Planters for Speybay Hall
- * Base for the Duck Race Trophy
- * Removal and Refurbishment of the bench from the path at Memorial Gardens near the lower bridge over the Burn of Fochabers and then resituated in Burnside Road.
- * Installed CCTV in Cold Store
- * Repaired work bench for Milne's Nursery
- * Attended Various Car Boot Sales to raise funds with selling of old tools etc.

We also carried out Projects for Village Residents

- * Repaired a manikin
- * Repaired Spinning Wheel
- * Repair a Gate
- * Repaired doors at Cold Store (to be painted)
- * Install and configure Wi-Fi for Institute
- * Made various Celtic Designed Plaques

To name but a few, Members also carried out many projects of their own.

All of these projects highlight the diverse range of skills of the members of the Shed, they are a very talented bunch. It is important to remind ourselves that the Shed is not just for sharing or learning new skills, it's about a place for people to come have a chat, a tea or a coffee, and a bikkie. We all benefit from a wee blether be it face to face or via our WhatsApp group chat.

Upcoming Projects for 2026

- * Planters for High School
- * Repair and make Planters Etc. for Rainbow Group
- * Continue with Chairs for Elgin Fencing Group
- * Refurbish Benches and Table in Cold Store.

Publicity wise we had several articles published in The Fochabarian.

We received various grants and donations from Groups and Individuals throughout the year. The Village Association and others many thanks to them all.

We purchased various tools throughout the year.

We again took part in the Gala Celebrations with our Nail in a Bed competition which was held in the Institute due to the weather conditions and Lisa help out in the Christie room with another stall.

We held our Annual Christmas Lunch in the Christie Room on the 11th December with 19 members attending which again was a great success with a big thank you to Mary and Ronnie for providing their services on the day.

For those new to the Shed the Committee consists of 7 Members, Alex Hume as Chairman, Dave Thow as Secretary, Rob Goodall as Treasurer, Bob Sharp as Vice Chairman, Mark Pilkington, Peter Milne and Murray Gillies as Committee Members.

The Trustees are Alex, Dave, Bob and Mark

Once again thank you to all for attending the AGM and let's look forward to a successful 2026 at the Shed.

“THERE ARE NO STRANGERS HERE ONLY FRIENDS YOU HAVEN'T MET YET”

Alexander F Hume

Chairman Fochabers Men's Shed

