

MenInSheds: Bedford



Monthly Newsletter Starts

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2017. The committee has been hard at work and there is lots to tell you.

To make this newsletter interesting, we need to pass on stuff, pictures, activities, information on events, and the like.



First of all, the website has been updated, and pages and information added. Constructive feedback would be much appreciated. The plan is that anything of interest will be posted there regularly.

Proposed new timetable

There is a proposal for a new timetable, again, the committee is seeking members views on this (along with some help). There is a soft launch of computer training on Monday afternoons 14:00-16:00. 16th January will be covering remote “cloud” storage — specifically DropBox. Whatever topics you are interested in, speak up (harder topics might need a bit longer planning). Once the two new computers have been bought, we will be going full steam ahead.



Proposed New Timetable

Project description:

To start having more going on in Men In Sheds Bedford, we are proposing more activities and more times:

Day	Morning 1000-1200	Afternoon 1400-1600
Monday	Coffee Morning	Computer Training
Tuesday	Heavy Machine Work	Beginner training (Female friendly)
Wednesday	Model Trains	Photography
Thursday	Heavy Machine Work	Community Outreach
Friday	Panto Practice	

Status: Under discussion

Coordinator: Bob Wickens (photobob1941@gmail.com)

Due date: 4th February 2017

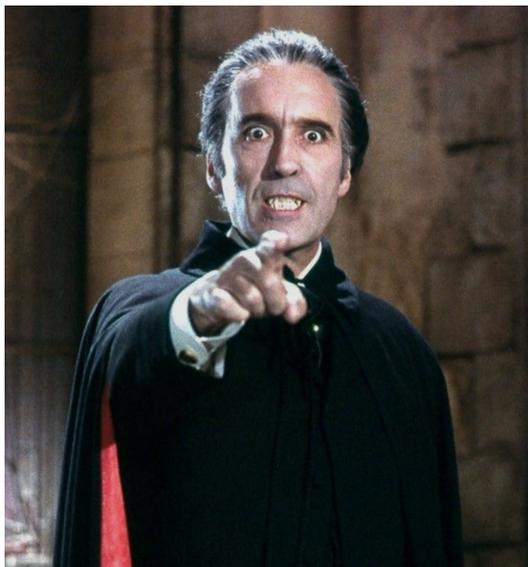


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Membership Renewals

It's that dreaded time of year again when members have to part with cold hard cash; but it puts a smile on the Treasure's face, so it's not all bad.



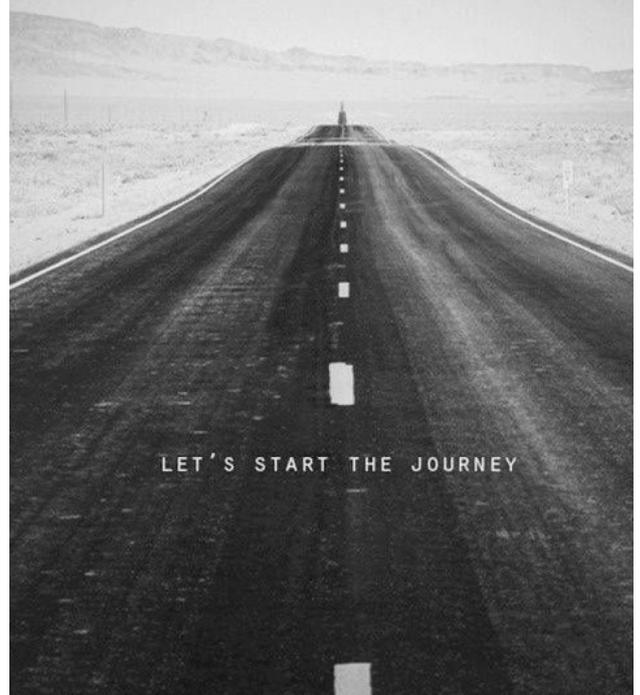
As debated in the AGM in December, joining costs for new members are now £10.00 along with a yearly cost of £15 (making a total of £25). Renewing members' cost are now £15 per annum. Renewal forms will be sent out shortly.

As I am sure you are all aware, compared to a number of other activities and clubs this is very cheap at 29p a week (my wife pays £10.00 a year, and £2.50 a week to play bridge for three hours, which is over a hundred pound per year). Currently the committee has been debating, at great length, ways of funding out workshop and its activities. We plan to present a questionnaire to members, along with some financial information shortly.

Meanwhile, to increase revenue for the our organisation, the committee are hoping that those that use the workshop facilities frequently, and can afford it, will switch to Standing Order and make a monthly contribution. Our recommendation is £5.00 per month, which will be kept anonymous. This will allow Men In Sheds Bedford to thrive and grow.

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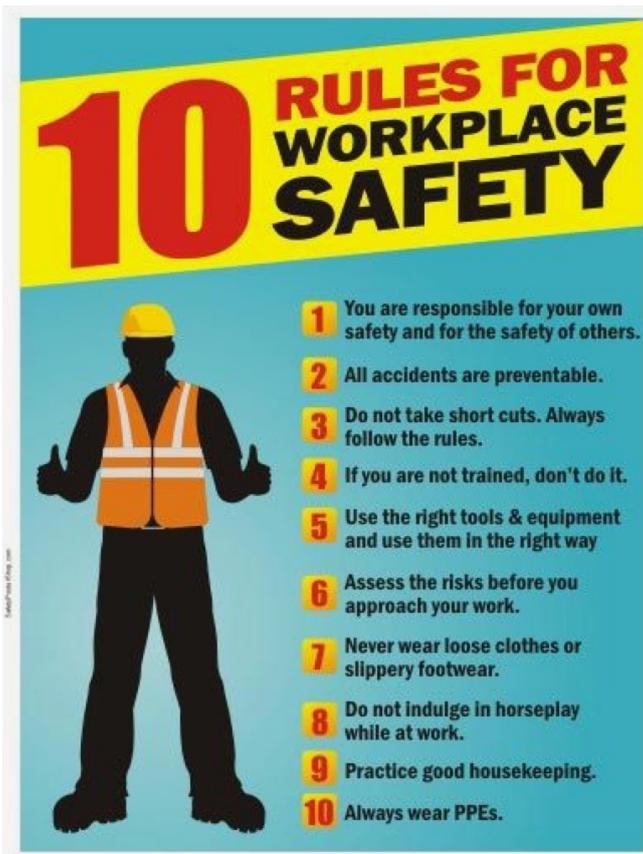
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Health and Safety

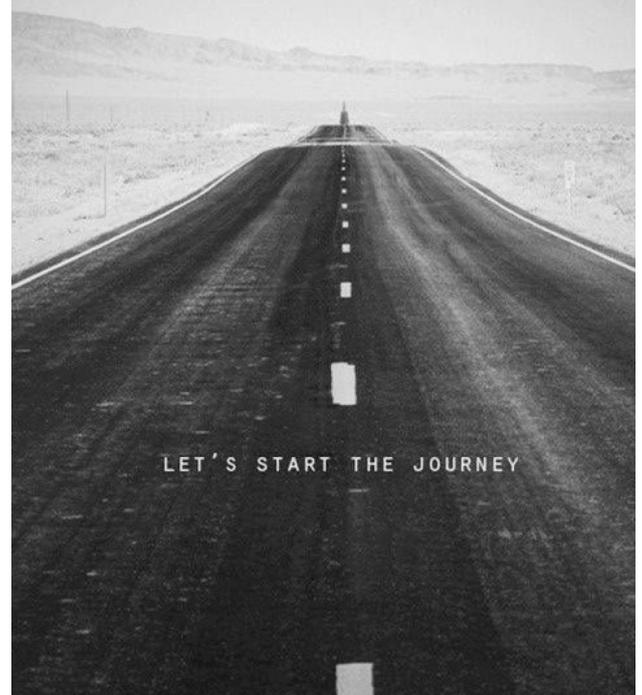
We know it's not everyone's favourite topic, but we need to keep members in one piece and healthy (we can't afford to lose you).

There was a near miss recently which could have been very serious.



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Therefore can all members please only use machines that they have been approved on by Men In Sheds: Bedford.

There is a lovely file in the Shed with who has been validated on what machines, and who is available to do training.

If you want training, please let us know, and we will try and arrange some sessions.

We know members have often a lifetime using these machines. However, our insurance is invalid for you, or anyone else, should there be an accident if the paperwork has not been completed

On behalf of Men In Sheds Committee
Secretary
Steve Conway (sc@steveconway.net)

