

Community Stars – Skills workshop

Shed your worries

'Men's Sheds' is a unique initiative in Australia that gives bereaved and unemployed men the chance to come together and use their practical skills to make and mend.



Littlebeck Methodist Church in Yorkshire decided to try something similar. The church opened up its schoolroom at the back of the church and invited men to come along and put their hands to any tasks that needed doing.

From making bird boxes to lathe turning walking sticks, from woodwork to metalwork, the men are now busy every week making, fixing and mending. There's no pressure, just plenty of camaraderie and friendship.

The group is getting known up and

down the valley and the community is much more aware of the church presence and mission. The famous Coast-to-Coast Path goes right past the chapel, and if walkers come past on a Tuesday or a Thursday they will see the men hard at work.

“ Church-wise, what describes us best is we're low on membership but big on heart. ”

Hazel Green
Steward

Church details

- Littlebeck Methodist Church, North Yorkshire
- North Yorkshire Coast Circuit, Yorkshire North & East District
- Average congregation: 10

What you'll need

- Take stock of your buildings and the needs in your community
- Connections in the local area
- Posters, website and word of mouth to attract 'Shedders'
- Take a look at Littlebeck's website

Sheds by numbers

- Average number of shedders = 12
- £2.50 subscription per session
- From 0 to 4 sheds in the area since 2015
- Length of the Coast to Coast Path = 192 miles



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