

“Zoom does video calls like FaceTime, but that's not all. Zoom is a full-on video conferencing service that allows users to share files, engage in text chats along with the video call, and share screens”. How might it serve us? Maybe ShedComms, connecting us together.



We have various places, sheds, where Sheddors meet as a group in a collective Shed. Sheds function with tools and equipment for “doing the job”. Sheddors talk to communicate!

Sheddors come from their homes to gather, a primary purpose of Sheds. It is for a few hours, once or twice a week. The rest of the time there is little contact other than telephone calls, emails, Facebook etc. IF the Sheddors do that. Many don't. It is the group setting that attracts and distracts them.

How can we better connect Sheddors out of Shed hours for social or management reasons without encroaching on Shed hours which few would welcome?

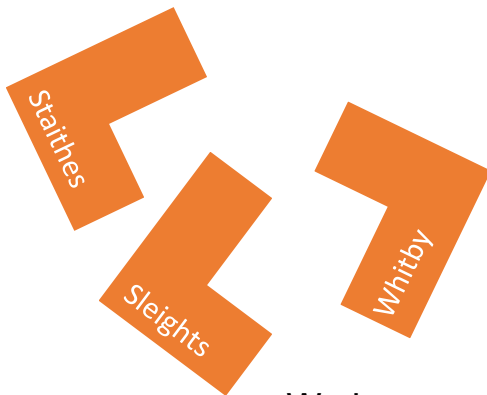
We have several Sheds (groups of men identified with place). However, we do not have time to get to know others and share knowledge of the skills we have. Certainly not face-to-face. Newcomers don't meet and get to know others who are driving forces in Sheds just down the road!

How can we better connect our Sheds to enhance the common experience we share in Shedding. Can we more effectively Shed together?

We have some Sheddors who for various reasons can no longer usually get to a Shed and some not now at all.

Can we support them with a Whitby-e-Shed that connects them to each other at home AND into the life of the working Sheds? Yes, all possible and we have already done some of this ad hoc and 1:1.

Can we give them and any Shedder temporarily unwell some inclusion in our Shedding? Yes we should.

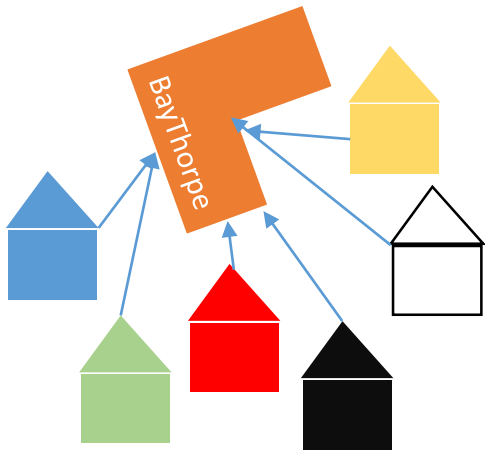


Sheddors have been to visit other Sheds and to join national ShedFests.

Can we hook up to others more readily without long journeys?

Many events now have online sessions to join. Particularly now with Covid-19. This will continue post Covid-19.

We can involve Sheddors in the bigger picture.

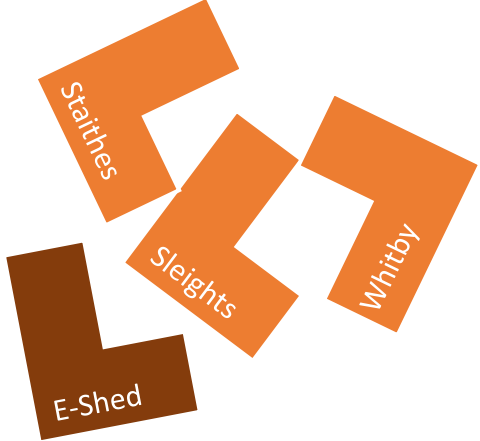


ShedComms is about group sharing of time with others outside of the Shed. Anything that is recognizably a part of the Shed and not 1:1 chat on the weather! UNLESS there is good reason, which there can be.

An example is a Shed get together for discuss an issue, sharing something of interest, hearing from a remote guest, watching something together and discussing it.

A meeting may be open to all, to the “executive”, to discuss a project. A meeting that is arranged.

There might be times though where a virtual Shed can be virtually open for any member to pop in to chat with whoever might be there. If something gets serious, arrange a separate meeting for those involved/interested.



Clearly, we can have Sheddors from another Shed dropping in or a “friendly” Shed we know or – by arrangement – a prospective new Shedder.

There can be a Social HUB for tall our Sheds to meet in. Plus we could join in Regional events and engage in International relations in (as with Labrador Shed).

There are other videoconferencing aspects to Zoom like the ability to comment with text whilst a meeting is going on, to share a screen (for instance a picture, a video, a PowerPoint for all to see simultaneously).

Meetings can be scheduled too ahead of happening. Timed with reminders for tomorrow at 3pm.

I can also send a poster to all in the meeting for them to save and print out. Zoom is a tool for the imagination. There are many who can help set a prototype up. Starting SIMPLE and gradually adding options maybe.

