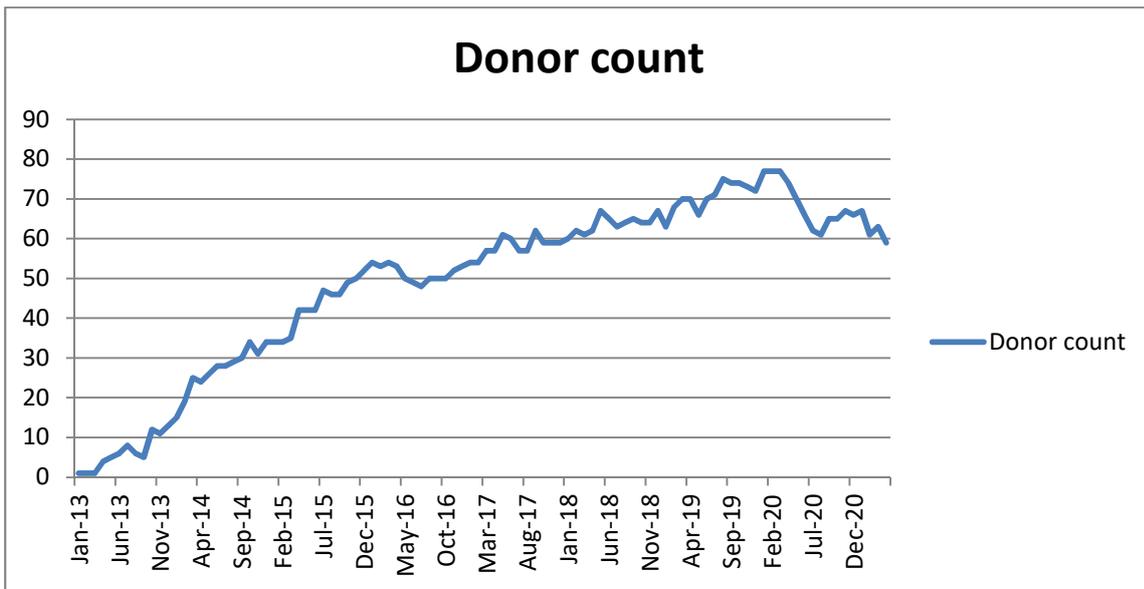




Treasurer's Report 2020/2021

The financial period from April 2020 to March 2021 was dominated by the Covid 19 pandemic and the associated lockdown periods, during which the shed was closed. Hopefully, there will be no further lockdowns and the shed will continue to be open to members.

The various lockdown periods and quarantine isolation rules have affected members in various ways, so it is unsurprising that we saw a fall in the number of Localgiving donors of around 25%.



Fortunately, we have a good level of cash reserves (£15000+), so at no point was the shed in danger of not having sufficient funds to continue. There was a low level of contributions through the demijohn, but this was offset by very low electricity bills.

During June last year, we spent around £400 on setting up the sanitiser dispenser units, together with a good stock of hand sanitizer, masks, and nitrile gloves. Nigel Pigott and others set about arranging the upstairs space for social distancing.

Although, we have not been formally open, there have been various activities taking place, notably the makerspace members using 3D printers to create PPE items for health workers. We received a grant of £1600 from MKCF of which £844 was paid out in expenses and the balance returned to them.

There has also been planning for future events, and ensuring that we have everything we need to operate stalls at car boot sales, or host Saturday morning tool sales. We can now take credit card and mobile phone payments using the Sum-up card readers, and many thanks go to Brian Littlejohn and Dave Tilley for making the large point of sale tool trays. As treasurer, I foresee the need for the shed to not just rely on donations, but to engage in activities that will generate income, as well as being fun to be involved with.

Since April 2020, the website has been redesigned with branding to match the look of our items of clothing. This includes a forum for shed members and pages for members to feature their projects. All previous committee meeting minutes and newsletters going back as far as 2013 are now available on the website, allowing anyone to follow the history of the shed.

New items of machinery have been added to the workshops. In the woodwork area we have purchased a professional grade table saw, and in the metalwork area, the following machines have been added since the last AGM:

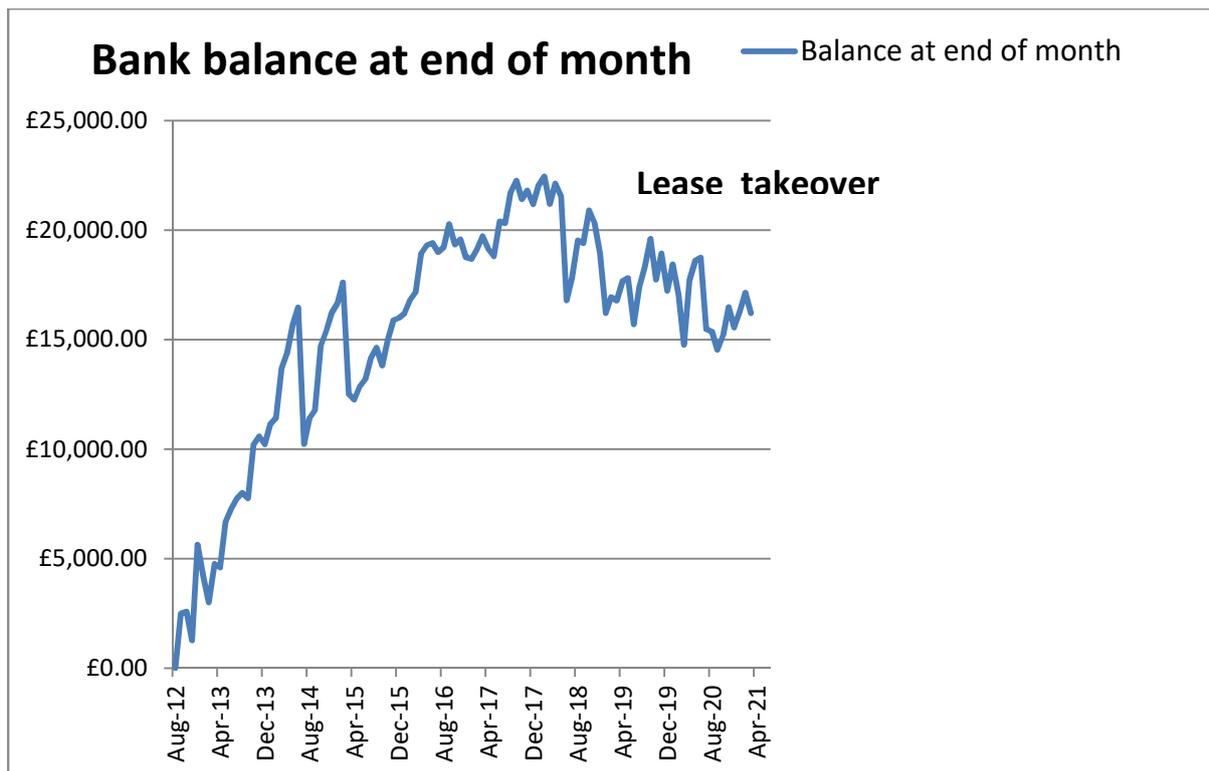
- Milling machine
- Restored Myford ML7 lathe with milling attachment
- Myford ML4 lathe (from John Dixon)
- Rapidor 'Donkey saw'
- Horizontal bandsaw
- Parts washer

In addition to this a variety of new hand tools and measuring equipment have been made available. Lighting in most areas of the shed has now been upgraded to LED lighting.

Expenses

Expenses (Avg Monthly)	01 July 2016	01 July 2019
Rent/Landlords Fee	£710.00	£571.07
Buildings Insurance	£68.75	£113.50
Contents Insurance	£0.00	£88.67
Water	£0.00	£25.85
Electric - EON	£0.00	£227.88
Electric - Solar	£0.00	£85.00
Internet & Telephone	£18.72	£39.00
Waste Collection	£0.00	£79.20
Typical Utility cost	£797.47	£1,230.17

Since taking over the lease from Age UK, monthly costs have risen significantly, as the table above shows.



As always, the electricity bills have been extremely volatile, so I have dealt ruthlessly with wasteful usage. This will have mainly affected the Makerspace that have had a server rack and fridge running 24/7 for the past several years. Since the shed took over the lease in April 2018, we have had to pay for the electricity we use, so all charges for electricity used by the Makerspace have been backdated to May 2018. It is unfair to expect Shedders to pay for wasteful, inept behaviour of a few. This spreadsheet shows the full details of charges.

https://meninshedsmk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/minutes-agendas-newsletters/makerspace_2021-05-19.pdf

At the time of writing, I have been verbally advised that our rent will increase by 20%, but am still awaiting confirmation of this. The shed will need to be proactive in generating further income through organising tool sale events, and selling donated items online, as well as the various community projects happening in the woodwork area.

John Orme, Treasurer. 19th May 2021