

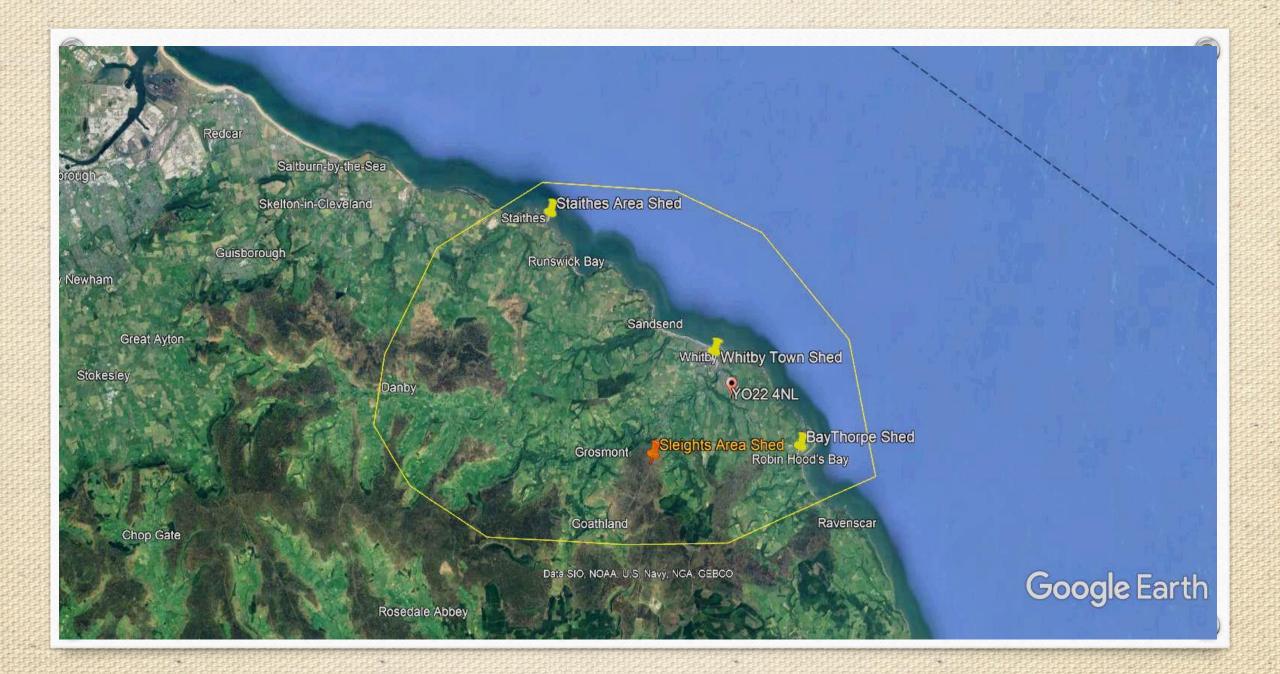
Sheds Without Walls

... aren't mugs!

Graham Storer (a Northern Shed Ambassador)

shares outside the box thinking from 4 Sheds in Whitby District and a new Norton-on-Tees Shed





She Who Must Be Obeyed

Rachel Meadows* said:

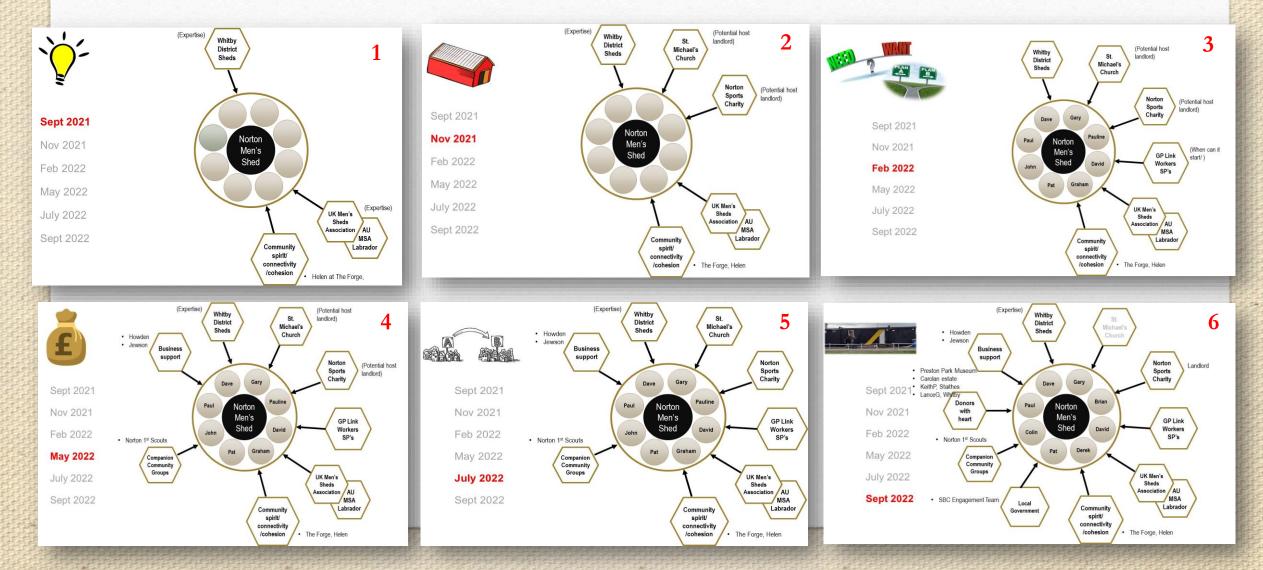
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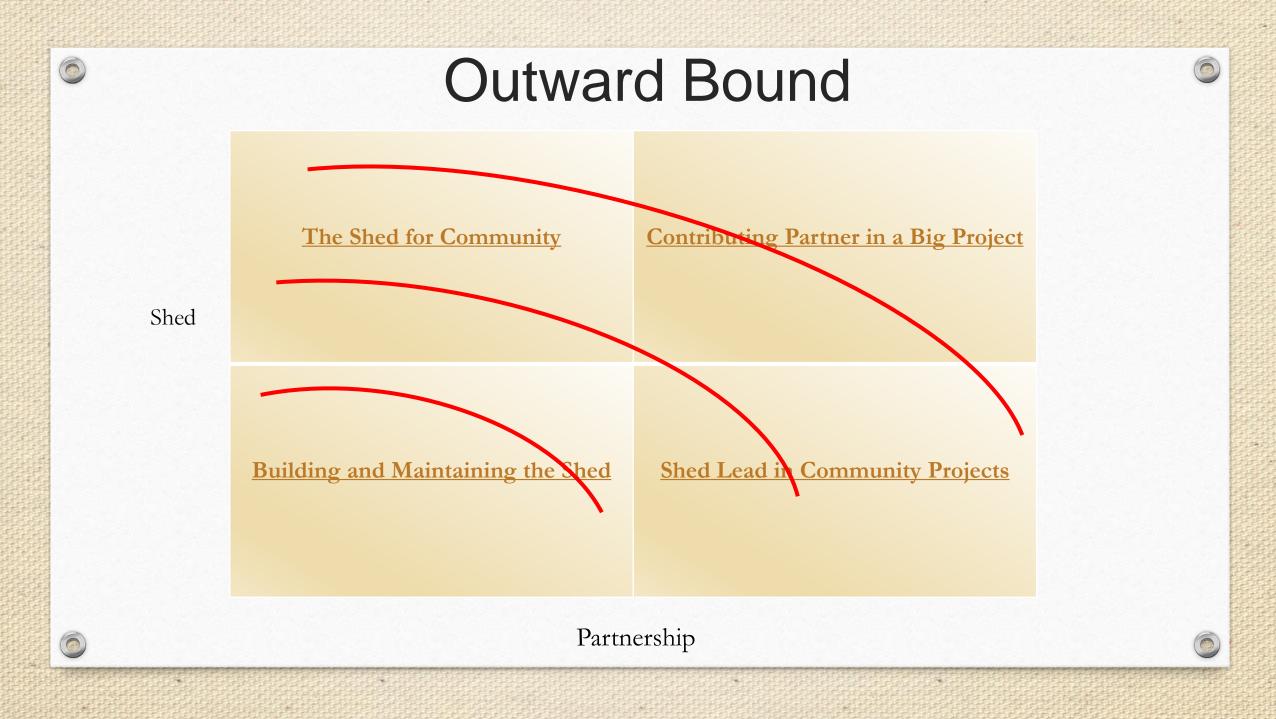
- Share a bit about how Whitby District Sheds:
 - have interacted with other groups,
 - have supported the community,
 - And why it can be a good thing to be connected and not insular

As a bonus, experience from Norton Men's Shed (2022) is also introduced.

* Volunteer and Community Development Manager, UKMSA. Just Rachel to us!

Norton Men's Shed Development (2022)





Populating the Diagram

2016 Whitby chance meeting with Aussie Shedder2017 Youth Justice seed that became Pop Up Shed2018 Youth Shed/Club

The Shed for Community

2016 North Yorkshire CC Stronger Communities Team
 2016 NYCC 'Living Well' Whitby Team (forerunner of social prescribing)
 2016 Shed Web Site
 2019 Whitby Community Alliance

 <u>Contributing Partner in a Big Project</u>
 2023 Andys Man Club – new Whitby group conceived

Shed

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2016 Shed in NY Moors Sleights Area Men's Shed 2017 Whitby Town Shed

- 2018 Staithes Shed
- 2019 Robin Hood's Bay Shed

Building and Maintaining the Shed

2022 Norton Men's Shed (Stockton-on-Tees)

2019 Whitby Compassion Project2022 The Doing Place, Whitby2023 The Doing Place, Staithes

Shed Lead in Community Projects





Take Aim

• What's your target?

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- It changes in flight
- Try to take a long view
- Work in the present with an eye to the future



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Keep on aiming high

Whitby Community Alliance 2019

- Whitby Sheds a founding member of Whitby Community Alliance
- Voluntary sector combining it's efforts to support the Whitby Community
- Dealing with matters of common interest to third sector organisations
- Working on common approaches to community needs

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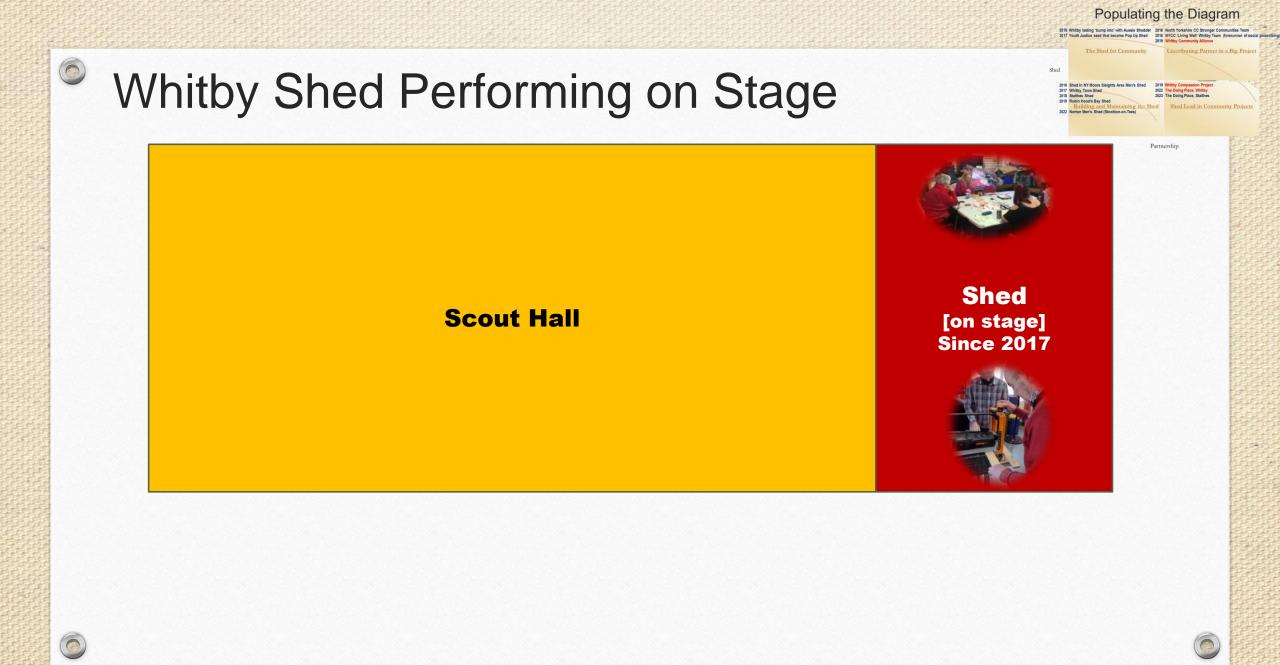
- Building relationships between member organisations
- We discovered one of our disabled Shedders received help from:
 - A Farmer's Breakfast, Male Voice Choir, Memory Lane Lunch, Wet Wheels, Whitby Disability Action Group and Staithes Men's Shed

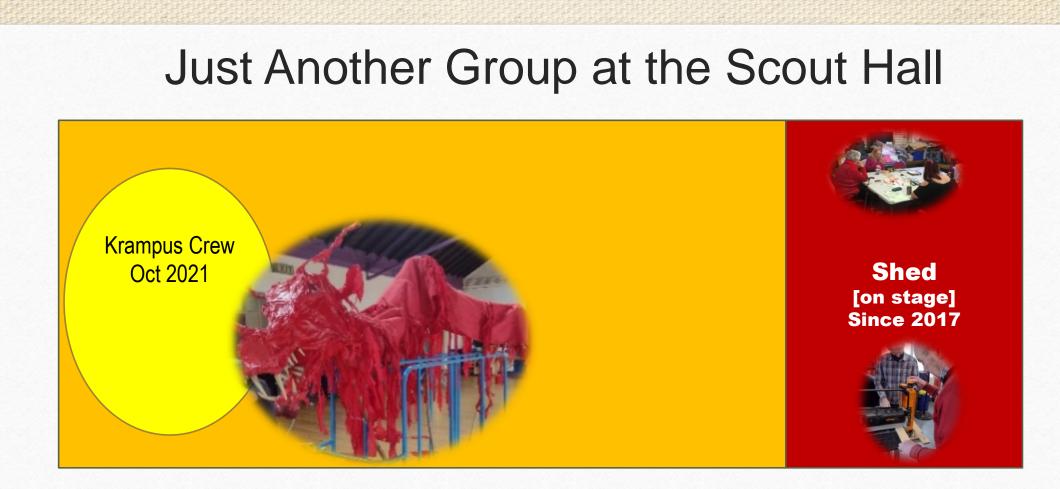
Populating the Diagram Justing 'bump into' with Aussie Sheddar utice seed mit became Pop Up Shed 2015 NOTC' Living Well Whithy Team (forerunner of so

2023 The Doing Place, Staither

2016 Shed in NY Moors Sleights Area Men's Shed

Colin (80 yrs) has been in care homes, in hospitals for treatment, in hospitals as a "bed blocker", and away from his partner and dog for 3 years. A central lifeline since 2019 has been the Shed and practical help with social media and video conversations.





Krampus Crew (properly, Decadent Drawing) create large wire framed figures (people and animals) used in Whitby's regular December Krampus Run. They needed affordable space to use as a workshop. On their behalf we approached Whitby Scouts to use space whilst the Shed was on.

Just for a few weeks. However, a year on Krampus Crew are still there and now a partner in a new venture, The Doing Place..

The Whitby Doing Place



Nurturing start-up initiatives with a 'Department Store' approach funded by NYCC under suicide reduction programme. Krampus (alternative creative art), Whitby Scouts (premises), Whitby Shed (prime movers!)

The Whitby Doing Place



Common factors:

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- Creative Distractions that aid mental wellbeing
- Activities not part of the Shed, but . . . encouraged and facilitated by the Shed
- Helping build community capacity

Short term intent (2023)

- Duplicate concept as The Staithes Doing Place at Staithes Sports & Social Club
- In the longer term The Norton Doing Place ???

A mixed economy of Creative Distraction for people's different interests, needs and generations.



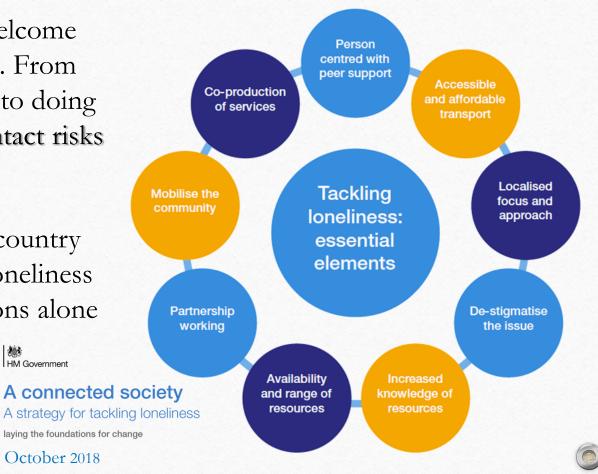
Key Elements to Tackling Loneliness

October 2018

As our society continues to evolve, otherwise welcome advances can also increase the risk of loneliness. From working more flexibly but often more remotely to doing our shopping online, the warmth of human contact risks receding from our lives.

The expansion of social prescribing across the country will change the way that patients experiencing loneliness are treated - recognising that medical prescriptions alone cannot address the root causes of loneliness. HM Government

Thus the Whitby Compassion Project



Vhitby Compassion Project Whitby Compassion Project

Little things mean a lot

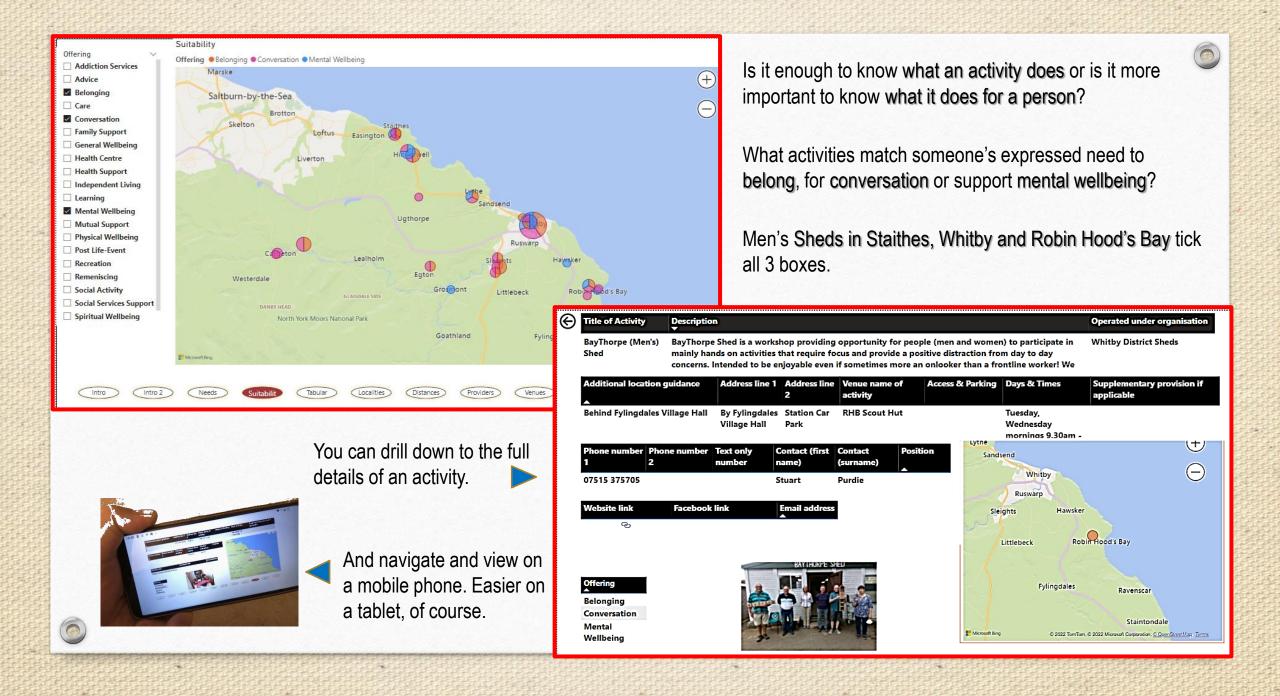
• In the beginning was Frome Compassion Project envisioned by GP Dr Helen Kingston

Populating the Diagram

Compassion

in Abel & Lindsay Clar

- "A case for hope & human kindness from the town that beat loneliness"
- Shed Ambassador Patrick Abrahams and Frome Men's Shed were in from the start of implementation. Helen inspired Patrick and Patrick inspired Graham!
- It's about people in community sharing their innate compassion. Equipping volunteer "Community Connectors" to be signposts towards help for those out on a bit of a limb.
- To a Shedder everything is a Shed. Sheds exhibit a lot of compassion. Whitby Compassion Project is an expression of Shed ethos to the community we live in.
- Halted by Covid-19 for two years it is for launch in 2023. Working in co-production mode, we've gathered details of 200+ services and activities to re-connect people in community.
- They are packaged in a map based Whitby Handy Directory accessible by mobile on the hoof as when and where needed for signposting. After compassionate conversation.



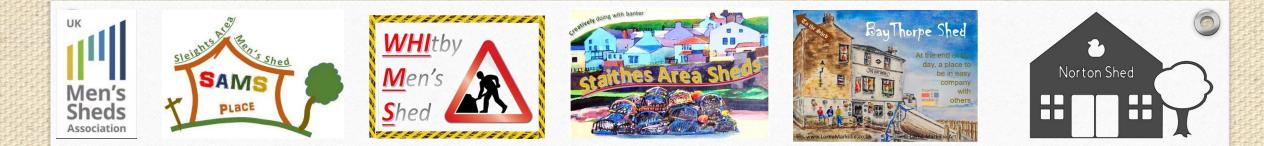
Why be connected and not insular? -1

- 1. Making connections delivers the basic elements of a Shed.
 - Venue<>Owner; Finance<>Funders; Shedders<>Referrers; Support<>Administrations
- 2. Our Sheds are sustained by relationships not by woodwork!
 - Camaraderie and banter are the glue that binds our Sheds a little bit of capability too!
- 3. Supporting mental wellbeing is a main purpose of our Sheds
 - Newcomers reseed connection at the Shed and foster self worth and confidence
- 4. They allow individual Shedders to "do good" to each other
 - Compassion shrouded in banter, the great leveller



Why be connected and not insular? -2

- 5. If it's good for Shedders to come together, why not Sheds with others too?
 - Facing outwards means seeing opportunities to work on a scale to tackle community needs
- 6. Great satisfaction ("feel good") comes from being in a bigger team
 - Feeds the Shed ethos and offers opportunity for Shedders to be compassionate
- 7. You discover that others have the same purpose but differently
 - It's all about creative distraction Shed, Knit & Natter, a U3A group, footpath repair
- 8. Connection keeps the Shed refreshed and out of a rut
 - A Shed becomes a family and others are relatives ③



Connect. Share. Give. Receive.

Happy to chat and to welcome Shed visitors! graham.storer@ukmsa.org.uk

> www.whitbysheds.co.uk www.normens.org.uk

