

The refurbishment of the Woodhouse Craft Centre is now complete. New lighting was installed last summer, and the painting and flooring were completed in December. We have sorted, sold, and disposed of many items we no longer need and there are plans for more shelving to display our beautiful products. The total cost was £20,000 and was raised through the generosity of our community through either Go Fund me, where we asked people to sponsor a plank, or direct donations to the Centre. Many people signed gift aid forms to allow us to recover the tax from HMRC.



We hope you will come to our open morning on March 21st and see the results. I would like to thank everyone who supported us!

#### Lorna

**Chair of Trustees** 





Dear All,

Welcome to The Woodhouse Craft Centre Spring 2024 Newsletter

Here at the Centre, we are all very happy with the newly refurbished hall, and celebrated by having our Winter lunch at the end of January. We were treated to amazing food cooked by Annabel Seeger who was helped in the kitchen by her daughter, Georgina, with Debbi Harris from Waitrose doing a great job of co-ordinating food delivery to our members. Our thanks go to Waitrose for providing us with help and all the vegetables, and to Morrisons for their food contributions. I'd also like to thank one of our supporters, Juliana Adamson, for picking up the rest of the food bill on the day, and Tandridge Together Community Fund for covering the other costs for this event.



The Men in Sheds membership has increased again since the Autumn. The members have been busy making bird boxes with the hope that the warmer weather encourages the birds to start nesting. They are, as always, busy with customer commissions, various wood projects and are helping with anything that needs doing in the Centre.

We hope you have all received your invitation to our Open Morning on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March. It's a wonderful opportunity to show you around and have a chat about the Centre over coffee and cake. We will be selling lots of Easter gifts and wooden items as well as holding our regular cake sale and raffle. Jackie from Jacbnimble Crafts will demonstrate folk-art and will be selling her beautiful gifts and cards. She will also be running a folk-art course at the Centre from April which I can guarantee will be great fun. If you would like to join the upcoming course, or find out more, go to www.jacbnimblecrafts.com or talk to Jackie at the open morning.

We have two children's courses coming up this year. Alison from Art for life is going to be running kids' art classes over the school holidays, and one of our lovely volunteers, Jane, is running a kids' craft workshop on the first Saturday of the month commencing in May. For more information about both classes please see page 7 of this newsletter.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the volunteers, members, Men in Shed members and Trustees at The Woodhouse Craft Centre. You all bring great ideas, hard work, enthusiasm, and fun on a day-to-day basis! We couldn't run the centre without you.

Lastly, I'd like to say thank you to all our loyal supporters. Whether you're an individual supporter or a larger organisation, such as Morrisons and Waitrose, we really appreciate all that you do for us. Also, a special thank you for funding goes to Claire Couthino's Friendship Fund and Tandridge Together Fund.

With Best Wishes

Liz

Liz Martin-Lawrence



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# **NEWS FROM THE MEN IN SHEDS**



#### **NEW TOOLS**

The men in sheds group were delighted to accept a kind donation of tools from a local resident this month. Please think of us if you are having a Spring clean and find tools in your garages at home that you think we might be able to use.





### **RESIN ROOM**

Exciting news! We now have a 'resin room' at the Centre! Dave Peachey is creating amazing resin pieces ranging from necklaces & key rings to tables!

There will be lots of resin items and gifts available to buy so come and take a look.



# FULLY WATERPROOF OUTDOOR BLANKETS AND SOMETHING FOR CATS!

I have been recycling since my 'A' levels. Prompted by my project "We are exhausting the seemingly inexhaustible "As a Hospice Director I furnished our new build Summerhouse entirely from upcycled items. Moreover, we will all eventually realise there is no such place as "thrown away" rather future generations will inherit vast underground mountains of toxic non degradable waste.



Joining the Men in Sheds/Woodhouse Craft Centre has fuelled this passion. Indeed, I challenge you to present us with a project...

My latest or projects are a fully waterproof outdoor blanket for a homeless person made from recycled tent fabric, sheep's wool packaging and crisp wrappers! AND an Eastertide Cat Basket/Scratcher made from a scrapped lamp stand.





# ELIZABETH HERBERT – CELEBRATING 100 YEARS THIS MARCH

On Sunday 3rd March, Elizabeth Herbert, one of our longstanding members at the Woodhouse Centre celebrated her 100th birthday.

Elizabeth started her association with the Centre via the Tandridge Handicraft Society. At the Monday afternoon group, Elizabeth's friend Chuck encouraged her to come to the Woodhouse Centre and Thursday morning's became a regular date in her diary.

Elizabeth enjoys coming to be creative at the Centre and to see her friends for a chat and a coffee. Over the years she has sewn, honed her dress-making skills and perfected her embroidery, even embroidering vestments for the church and the pulpit fall in St John's church in Hurst Green. She is still a keen knitter.



There are understandably lots of celebrations that took place for Elizabeth's milestone birthday; family gatherings, church events with all her friends and obviously the Woodhouse Centre celebrated with her too! Such an achievement. Happy Birthday Elizabeth!

# THANK YOU WAITROSE

The Woodhouse Craft Centre members and volunteers were delighted to receive flowers given to us by Waitrose. The lovely blooms certainly cheered us all up on a dull February day! Thank you again Waitrose.









#### SEWING MACHINE SERVICE

Did you know that The Woodhouse Craft Centre is a drop off point for Aztec Threads Sewing machine repairs and servicing?

You can drop your machines at the centre, and we will deliver them to Alan at his workshop in Edenbridge. Once serviced and/or repaired you can collect them from the office during our opening hours.





# UPHOLSTERY AND CANING

Don't forget that our brilliant upholsters and caners are available to update and refurbish your chairs and footstools.

Drop the office an email with photos of your items and we can get a quote to you.

# LEGACY GIFTS

Please consider the Woodhouse Centre when writing or updating your will. A legacy gift would help us to continue our work within the community.





# **OUR LATEST WORKSHOPS**

#### Children's craft workshop

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month starting on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 10am – 12.30pm £10.00 per child. Email: <u>info@thewoodhousecentre.org.uk</u> for more information

#### Kids Art Course (school years 4-6)

This Easter 2<sup>nd</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> April. Apply via <u>www.artforlife</u> or call Alison on 0202 8407 2384

Folk Art paining course April 2024 - Contact Jacbnimble@sky.com for more information

#### Cross Stitch (adults)

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 10am – 3pm

£45 including a kit. Run by Jenny Beal.

Email <u>workshops@thewoodhousecentre.org.uk</u> or call 01883 715189 or pop into the office for more information or to secure a place.

