

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Linskill Shed shortlisted for national UK Men's Sheds Award 2025

North Shields, 26 November 2025 – The Shed at the Linskill Centre — part of **Linskill & North Tyneside Community Development Trust, a local community charity** — has been named a finalist in the *UK Men's Sheds Awards 2025*, a nationwide celebration recognising the power of Sheds to reduce loneliness, improve wellbeing and strengthen communities.

The Linskill Shed is shortlisted in the **Shed of the Year** category for its outstanding contribution to community life — including its hands-on projects for local groups, its role in reducing social isolation, and its growing environmental and repair initiatives. As a charity, Linskill's mission is to *connect people and enhance lives*, and the Shed embodies that mission every single day by offering a welcoming space where men, and women, can make, mend, learn and belong.

This nomination comes at a milestone moment, following the **major expansion of the Men's Shed into a new, larger workshop space** earlier this year. The move — completed in summer 2025 — has doubled the floor area, improved accessibility, and enabled the charity to welcome more members and deliver more activities. With expanded metalwork, electronics, joinery and skills-sharing areas, the Shed now supports more men than ever to find friendship, purpose and community.

Quote – Simeon Ripley, CEO, Linskill & North Tyneside Community Development Trust

“As a charity, Linskill exists to support its community — and the Shed is one of the clearest examples of that mission in action. This shortlisting recognises the difference it makes to people's lives: the friendships built, the confidence regained, and the sense of belonging it creates. Our recent expansion has already allowed more local people to join the Shed family, and we're incredibly proud of what they've achieved together.”

Quote - Shed Member

“We're absolutely thrilled to be recognised. The Shed has become a lifeline for so many of us — a place to laugh, learn, make things and feel part of something. The new space has transformed what we can do, and being shortlisted means the world to everyone who walks through our doors.”

Winners will be announced at the **UK Men's Sheds Awards Ceremony on 27 November 2025**, hosted at the House of Commons, London.

For more information about the UK Men's Sheds Awards and to learn more about the finalists, visit menssheds.org.uk/awards2025.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

- Linskill & North Tyneside Community Development Trust is a registered charity dedicated to supporting residents across North Tyneside through community spaces, programmes and wellbeing activities.
- The UK Men's Sheds Association is the support body for Men's Sheds across the UK, promoting wellbeing, skill-sharing and community connection.
- There are more than 1,000 Men's Sheds across the UK.
- The Linskill Shed is part of the charity's wider **Community Programme**, which supports thousands of residents each year through creativity, learning, heritage, wellbeing and social connection. Recent highlights include:
 - Building equipment and resources for community groups and other charities.
 - Creating planters and outdoor furniture for the Linskill Centre's green spaces.
 - Supporting local events with handmade items.
 - Welcoming new members through repairs, skills swaps and wellbeing sessions.
- More information on the Shed's recent expansion: <https://linskill.org/our-mens-shed-has-moved/>
- More information on the Shed: <https://linskill.org/community-programme/#the-shed>

Press Contact:

Kelly Birch – Digital Communications

kelly.birch@ukmsa.org.uk – menssheds.org.uk/awards2025/

Melanie Adams – Linskill Operations and Marketing Manager

melanie@linskill.org Tel: 0191 2578000