

## PRESS RELEASE

*Immediate Release*

# Farnham Men in Sheds build storage units for Hale's food waste reduction scheme

Last week *Farnham Men in Sheds* put the finishing touches to their project to increase the capacity of the Hale Community Fridge and Cupboard food waste reduction scheme.

Farnham Men in Sheds is a collaboration between Farnham Maltings and space2grow and carries out woodworking projects for the local community.

Hale Community's Fridge and Cupboard, launched in August 2020, aims at reducing food waste by partnering with local supermarkets, taking on surplus that would have gone to landfill, and encouraging anyone to donate food they don't need or won't eat. Katie from Hale Community Fridge and Cupboard added, *"we've had some wonderful donations from people who have grown produce themselves and found they can't get through all their harvest."*

The team at Hale were immensely grateful to receive the storage units from Farnham Men in Sheds. Katie explains, *"The outdoor cupboard enables us to have a dry place outside to store fruit and vegetables so that the community can access what they need at any time."*

The cupboard was constructed from recycled wood, donated by a volunteer at Hale Community Centre who was removing decking from her garden. The men buffed up and cut down the wood to make the storage units, as well as adding features to ensure they met food and hygiene standards.

Richard, Rory and Iain took a lead on this project, under the supervision of Ken McGowan, Facilitator for Farnham Men in Sheds. Ken said, *"The guys get enormous satisfaction from building with materials that would otherwise have been thrown away."* Where possible the group always looks to use reclaimed and recycled materials.

Ken went on to say that *"they enjoy working on projects that people get a real benefit from. It was great to hear from the volunteers at Hale about the use the cupboard has been getting and how we were able to help them achieve that."* The group is keen to continue working on similar projects for the community.

Farnham Men in Sheds is a group formed for people interested in making and repairing to work on projects that serve the local community. Visit [farnhammaltings.com/take-part](https://farnhammaltings.com/take-part) if you have a project for Farnham Men in Sheds to work on, and to find out about their other projects.

The Fridge and Cupboard is located at Hale Community Centre and is open 10am-12pm Monday-Wed and 2pm-4pm on a Friday. They work on the ethos of, 'take what you need and give what you have excess of. It is free to all regardless of financial situation and if you have nothing to donate, that's not a problem.

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