

LANCASTER MEN'S HUB NEWSLETTER



Registered Charity No.1196670.
Issue 4 December 2021

It's official!

LMH becomes a registered charity

On Friday 19 November Lancaster Men's Hub finally became a fully registered charity. Following an initial application in June, the Charity Commission recognised the Hub as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with all the financial and administrative benefits that the official status brings. Our Registered Charity Number is 1196670, and the news was enthusiastically received by trustees, members and guests at Elevenses, the Lancaster Men's Hub's regular Friday social drop-in session.

Come into the garden

Lancaster Men's Hub have acquired a plot on Ambleside Road Organic Allotments, situated on Ambleside Road in Lancaster. The plot, which includes fruit trees and requires some



work, will provide the Hub with another location to provide opportunities for practical work and social contact for men who might currently be struggling to get those opportunities. Preparations for Spring have already begun, and the Lancaster Men's Hub will participate in the monthly community work at the allotment, which takes place on the second Sunday of each month.

'Tis the season ...

Elevenses, the regular free drop-in that runs every Friday at the Cornerstone on Sulyard Street, is growing in popularity and attracting both guests and potential members who will make significant contributions to the work of Lancaster Men's Hub. The drop-in is run in conjunction with the Band of Brothers and their chef, Murray Cuthbert, provides interesting



soups, pastas and wraps that supplement the cakes and biscuits provided by LMH and its members. All the guests can take advantage of the goodies provided and on 17 December there will be a special collaboration between Murray and the members to provide a traditional Christmas lunch. Sainsburys, Booths and ASDA have generously contributed food and money towards this festive occasion and Lancaster Men's Hub is very grateful to them for their support. The event has already reached capacity among the guests and the Band of Brothers, and we look forward to a pleasant lunchtime, providing good fun and useful social interactions. Special mention should be made here of the invaluable support given to these events by one of our female members, Janet Entwistle, who supervises the kitchen and keeps the volunteer baristas on their toes.

Don't forget that we have Elevenses every Friday from 11.00 pm at the Cornerstone on Sulyard Street. Free coffee social drop-in. Everyone is welcome.

Lancaster Methodist Church Asset Fair

On Saturday 6 November Lancaster Men's Hub ran a stall at the Lancaster Methodist Church Fair, which was organised to launch Lancaster Methodist Church as an Emergency Centre for the Scotforth area.



The fair was attended by a number of other local and community organisations and there was a barbecue

which survived the rather inclement weather. The event was a great success and several fruitful contacts were made, as well as good sales of LMH woodwork items donated by the Treasurer, David Smith.

Moorlands Community Group

Moorlands Community Group was initially started in 2019, from a real desire to bring people together to create a sense of community spirit in the urban area of Moorlands, which has around 500 households across 12 streets. The community itself is made up of a real mix of families, both homeowners and private rental accommodation as well as a high population of students. After a few social events and meetings, COVID arrived and like all social groups, we were forced to develop our communication online. We came together to support each other during the lockdown, both face to face, offering help to those isolated and being mindful of each other, and online on our Moorlands Community Facebook page. Initially a membership of 25 people in July 2020, it now has over 300 members, with daily posts and comments on a whole host of community topics, from looking out for people living alone, to bin day, book sharing, passing on pre-loved items and organising events. Over the last 18 months we have had two successful Halloween Spooky Trails, VE day street parties, street cleaning, weeding and gritting sessions, Christmas Carols and social meet-ups in the pub. In May 2020 we had success in gaining funding from the Lancaster Community Fund for our Moorlands Planters Project. In partnership with Claver Hill our aim has been to brighten up the terraced streets and increase the wildlife in our area with

Planters for Moorlands

The first batch of windowsill planters has been handed over to Anne Jarvis of the Moorlands Community Group. The Group uses them as part of a scheme to involve the residents and brighten up the terraced streets of the Moorlands area, and the Lancaster Men's Hub has just taken over the supply of the planters. The planters were designed by John Wood and assembled by John, and David Smith. It is important to the residents that the planters are made from recycled



wood, and a number of old pallets, which have provided the raw materials for the project, were donated to Lancaster Men's Hub; thanks are due to Pallets Direct of Forton and Water Sculptures on White Lund for their help in this enterprise. The project is due to recommence in the Spring and the Community Group has plans for larger planters that would act as street furniture in the area



colourful window boxes. Members of Lancaster Men's Hub have made the window boxes from reclaimed wooden pallets and we have provided free bedding plants, bulbs and compost to anyone living in Moorlands. Our plans for 2022 are to grow more plants from seed in our homes and at Claver Hill and we aim to increase the areas on Moorlands where people can sit and enjoy the

flowers and wildlife. If you would like to know more about our group, please contact Sharon at moorlandscommunity@gmail.com or take a look at our public facebook page [Moorlands Community Group | Facebook](#)

Work is in progress on a set of three benches for the Claver Hill Community Food Growing Project. The benches are to be erected at locations on the Claver Hill Nature Trail and are currently being fabricated in members' own workshops owing to the current lack of a bespoke workshop space. Guests will be involved in the eventual fitting and erection of the benches which have been donated to the Community Food Growing Project by Lancaster Men's Hub.

