

# LANCASTER MEN'S HUB NEWSLETTER



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## Studio Update

Following two months of hard work by a team led by Chris Englefield and Nigel Appleton, and comprising many volunteer members, the Studio is now being used for Hub activities. Morecambe Bay Subbuteo Club has already hired the premises for their meetings, as mentioned overleaf, but on Thursday 3 July the **Lancaster Men's Hub Games Evening** moved from the Cornerstone to its new venue at the Studio. Members enjoyed the new premises and facilities; we hope this will be the first of many Hub activities that will take place there; the picture shows John F trying to avoid seeing the tiles selected by other



players! In the meantime, there is still work to do on improvements to the interior of the premises and on the **'Yardening'** project outside. If any members can get involved in working together on these exciting projects, contact Chris or Nigel for details of what is going on.

## Windermere Jetty Boat Museum

On 15 June 12 Lancaster Men's Hub members visited Windermere Jetty Boat Museum. The trip was organised by Chris Englefield, who is an LMH trustee and a volunteer at the museum, and we were treated to a trip around the museum and a talk from one of the craftsmen explaining the process of renovating the vintage boats. The museum has a unique collection of smaller craft, some dating from the turn



of the last century, that were owned by wealthy industrialists and local gentry, as well as cargo steamers that serviced the various villages around the lake; one particularly luxurious boat was used for the daily commute to work in Barrow, via a private train from Lakeside. The visit was further enhanced by a Model Boat Regatta and an excellent café! The day was a great success and thanks are due to Chris Englefield for organising it so effectively for the Hub members.

### Regular LMH Events

#### The Workshop

#### The Studio

#### Games Night

#### Elevenes Drop-in

#### Walking Football

- Most mornings 9.30 am - 2.30 pm (see Google calendar) Brook Street
- Mondays to Wednesdays 10.30 am - 3.00 pm Contact Chris Englefield
- Thursday Evenings 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm The Studio, Peter Street, off Marton Street. Contact David Smith
- Fridays 11.00 am - 1.00 pm, The Cornerstone, Sulyard Street
- Sundays 3.00 pm - 4.00 pm, University of Cumbria Sports Centre. Contact Aftab Gujral

## Flick to Kick Across Morecambe Bay!

The original Subbuteo game was invented by Peter Adolph of Tunbridge Wells, in 1946 and comprised heavyweight, hand painted figures which could be flicked and made to swerve, collect passes and shoot by skilled players. In its 1960-80s heyday it became one of the most popular selling “toys”. The contemporary game uses lightweight plastic figures with a huge variety of designs and strips, which can be priced anywhere from about £12 to £80+ for popular or rare teams. There are now complete



stadia with things like flood lights, third officials and scoreboards to add verisimilitude to the game. The game is controlled by WASPA (World Amateur Subbuteo Players Association) and there is an international federation. Subbuteo is now commonly known as Table Football and there will be a World Cup competition held in Tunbridge Wells in 2024.

**Morecambe Bay Subbuteo Club** was founded in 2022 and has seven regular members plus support from other local players from absolute beginners to some of the best players in the country. It is a friendly club with plenty of advice, support and coaching.

Several monthly sessions are held at venues including Westgate Cricket Club, Torrisholme Taps and the **new LMH Studio**. Whether you're looking for some nostalgia in a welcoming environment or interested in trying out something enjoyable, accessible and new: you'll be welcome at MBSC! An enjoyable session was held on Saturday 1st June at the new **Lancaster Mens Hub Studio**. There is more information on Facebook; search for Morecambe Bay Subbuteo Club.

## Benches for Claver Hill

Following a request from Claver Hill Community Farm, the Hub is building two benches to enhance rest areas on their new accessible Nature Trail. The paths, winding through the farm and nature area, can be used by wheelchairs and prams, opening up the farm to a more diverse group of people who can now enjoy the fascinating and productive

environment at Claver Hill. The benches are being made of recycled timber and installed without the



use of concrete as part of the farm's sustainable mission. Lancaster Men's Hub is pleased to support a local community project that gives the Hub members the opportunity to work together.

## Member(s) of the Month

### Jack Monk and Brian Salkeld

Two of the longest serving and oldest members of Lancaster Men's Hub are Jack (91) and Brian (94). The link between them is that both worked on the railways for many years, starting in the 1940s. Both were born and bred in Lancaster, Brian above a fish and chip shop on St Leonard Gate and Jack in Pot Houses close to the old Gas Works near St



George's Quay. They retired in the nineties and lost touch for 30 years but were reunited while attending the Hub. Jack

fired for Brian and his father occasionally and worked at the same train sheds until he was promoted to Manchester and worked on the Leeds run from Morecambe; he then spent the largest part of his career at Carnforth. Brian worked from Skipton and Green Ayre, and out of Carnforth to Carlisle, Crewe, Barrow and Liverpool. Both Jack and Brian are family men with 9 grandchildren and 7 great-grand children between them. Brian describes the Hub as “a wonderful institution to get people together” and Jack simply described it as “life changing”.