LANCASTER MEN'S HUB NEWSLETTER

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In Loving Memory of John Ferguson

A valued and hard-working member of Lancaster Men's Hub



It is with great sadness that we mourn the loss of John Ferguson, a much-loved and deeply respected member of Lancaster Men's Hub. He will be remembered with warmth, gratitude and admiration by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

He gave generously of his time, skills and good humour, and brought a steady presence to the Hub. Whether helping with practical tasks, offering encouragement or simply being there for others, he made a lasting contribution to the spirit of fellowship that Lancaster Men's Hub stands for.

Those who knew John will remember his willingness to roll up his sleeves, lend a hand and take pride in doing things properly. He was a steady and meticulous member of the workshop team and his constant hard work in the kitchens on a Friday was hugely valued as he unobtrusively took on the vital, but often under-appreciated tasks that kept the kitchen functioning effectively.

Beyond the work and the projects, John will be remembered most for the person he was: dependable, generous, good-hearted and respected. He leaves behind many fond memories and an example of a life lived with commitment, humility and care for others.

Our thoughts are with John's family, friends and all who mourn his passing. He will be greatly missed by everyone at Lancaster Men's Hub, but his contribution and companionship will not be forgotten.

Rest in peace, John. Thank you for all you gave, and for the difference you made.

Why watch alone when you can watch with friends?

Following the generous donations of a new TV and a hearing induction system to improve its accessibility to hearing-aid users, The Studio has hosted a number of **TV footy evenings.** World Cup fever gripped the Studio soon after we installed the TV and a number of England matches were screened. We can done more if we have the volunteers to open up and host a TV evening, whether it's for sporting events, film nights or something else. So if you want to help in the future, please speak to Ian Lyon.



Come and meet Lancaster Men's Hub.

Every Friday the men (and women) of Lancaster Men's Hub meet for Elevenses, a free coffee and lunch drop-in at the Cornerstone on Sulyard Street. Come along for a coffee and a bite to eat, join in the chat and find out what is going on in the Hub; you 'll be very welcome.

Fancy a ride?

LMH has a new activity available to members. Mark Cross has created a new cycling group and led the first trip from St George's Quay, Lancaster to Glasson Dock. This was an out and return trip of about 10 miles, with a break at Glasson's "Lock Keeper's Rest" for a bacon roll and some coffee. Typically, it was a blustery day, and the wind was in the faces of the riders on both directions! If you would like to join future trips, please make contact with Mark or Chris Englefield. Don't worry about the distance, trips will be planned to match everyone's capability.



Better by Design

I had the privilege recently of watching John Wood and Jim Needham working on the design of a picnic bench which would be disability-friendly so that wheelchair users could share the table along with everyone else. I have never seen such a bench commercially and I was fascinated by the care and expertise that was being brought to bear on the design. The process for a bespoke order involves the drawing up of a design on the computer and then, once the materials have been decided upon, the working out of requirements and cuts to maximise the use of the available wood. This is printed out with detailed measurements and instructions to cut, and all this takes place before anybody else can use their woodworking skills to produce a finished article. There will be more on the workshop in the next issue of the Newsletter, but I feel it is appropriate to pay a tribute not only the expertise of the builders but the skill and technical know-how of the designers.



Ever tried Role Playing Games ("RPG")?

The LMH Role Playing Games group which is led by Hari Gujral held a special "demo" session of the "Pathfinder" game at Elevenses recently, with the aim of attracting new players. Hari demonstrated the principles of the game to LMH members who came across to look. For most, this was a wholly new experience – and an intriguing one at that.



The game is set in the fantasy world of Golarion. In the Pathfinder universe, Golarion is the primary campaign setting, and the town of Otari serves as the starting point and base of operations for several popular adventures. Pathfinder is a popular tabletop roleplaying game (TTRPG) featuring deep character customisation and rich tactical combat. Players assume the roles of fantasy heroes in the world of Golarion, making decisions and rolling dice to determine outcomes while a Game Master (GM - Hari) runs the adventure. It's a collaborative game, not competitive – the opposition is the Games Master; being Hari, he tends to be kind to players!

If you are interested, why not come along on a Monday evening 1700- 1900 in The Studio – hot and cold drinks and biscuits are usually available.