



# OPEN MINDS ECHO

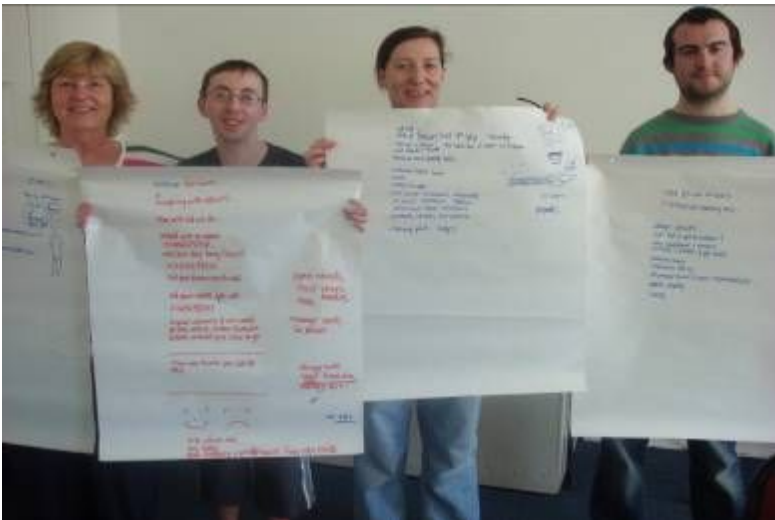
19<sup>th</sup> August 2011

Hi everyone

Welcome to our August newsletter, which is about our trip to Snibston Discovery Park in Leicestershire. The second of our summer trips in 2011. We hope you enjoy the read.

Like our previous adventure to Conkers, we used a similar set of activities, which involved members and volunteers planning etc. This time we had the input of Marc Beeby from Best Training Agency. Working alongside Marc was our member Mark Ford.

## Planning Day at Sherwood Community Centre



After the planning day we decided to go to the space centre, but when we were there both Marc & Mark decided it really wasn't suitable for our members, so we looked at Snibston Discovery Park. They prepared a presentation at the end of July to inform the members.

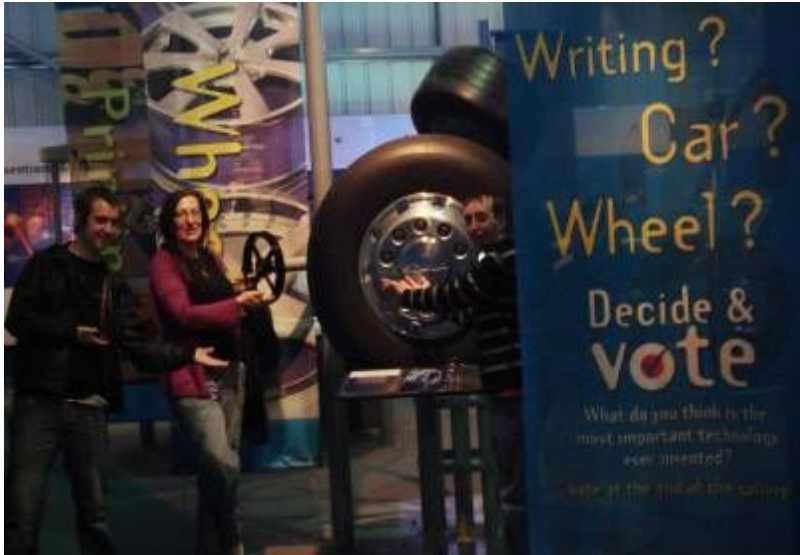
*From left: Sheila Bramley, Mark Ford, Rosa Crisafi and Marc Beeby*



*Mark Ford & Marc Beeby at Nottingham Mechanics at our July meeting*

At the meeting Marc Beeby and Mark Ford talked about the various activities at Snibston Discovery Park in contrast to that at the Space Centre. Members liked the idea of different things to do.

## Snibston Discovery Park



This was just one of many hands on exhibits. Marc & Mark suggested that the size of the Park and type of exhibits would appeal to everyone in our group.

So we kept to our date of Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July.

*From left: Marc Beeby, Rosa Crisafi & Mark Ford on an assessment trip*

## Outside Snibston



*From Left: Luca Crisafi, Sandra Hanks, Francis Towey, Sheila Bramley, Jeremy Bartys, Rosa Crisafi, Annie Mills, Tony Penn, Kevin Delaney, Paul Tyldsley, Jacky Dyce and Carer, Eric Laverick, Simon Tyldsley, Julie Bemrose, Mark Ford, Bobby Lee, Marc Beeby, Anthony Hodgkinson, John LeFeuvre, Colleen Yorke, Nathaniel Kyriacou, Christine Wadsley Richard Baguley.*

As days out like this are rare occasions for some of our members special attention was paid to how it would unfold, for example, Mark Ford suggested a reserved eating area for lunch. Snibston staff kindly obliged.

We spent over 4 hours looking round the park and the exhibits inside. The site is part of an old colliery works and some of our members went on a special tour of the mining works.

## The park



*One of the many lakes*



*From left: Kevin, Julie, Sandra, Colleen & Christine*

## The Discovery Centre

There are several areas that visitors can walk round and handle the exhibits: technology area, leisure area, transport & fashion and an industrial heritage area. Included are just some of the photos.





*Paul & Simon at the AMF bowling alley*

Simon has only attended Open Minds meetings in April, so his views really told us a lot about the group and how others might see our meetings.

Mark Ford, who organised the outing to Snibston interviewed Simon. "Well Simon has the group met your expectations so far? H'm so, so, I enjoyed the trips and the meetings. I really need to be in the group longer in order to give you a full impression, but so far it's ticked the boxes.

And what do you think of the group Paul. Well I like attending the group with Simon it gives us both a break. I like the idea of young and old mixing together and all the different views. It's good to see that pensioners like me can

still give something, especially to others, who are really vulnerable. I always enjoy the meetings.

There were lots of things to see at Snibston don't you think Simon? Not half – I was really tired and we'd only seen the transport and heritage stuff. I think we should go back at some stage.

That's interesting on the feedback a lot of members seem to feel the same – that we didn't really have enough time – only 4 hours!

Overall Mark you and Marc did us proud, didn't he Simon. Yes I think so.

**We would like to thank the PJK trust for making this event possible.**

**If you would like to know more about Open Minds then contact us**

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**All activities are chosen for the following:**

**Look forward to meeting you soon.**

**Marc & Mark**