



OPEN MINDS ECHO

Well it's Autumn, but you wouldn't know it – this time last year in November we were slipping over in the snow. Some things remain the same – our activities for a start and annual need day in October. In this quarters newsletter John interviews one of our latest volunteers Laura, we've details of this years need day and photographs from our visit to All Hours.

John Le Feuvre and Laura Fogden

Laura kindly agreed to the interview about her role as a volunteer at Open Minds. Laura told John that has met some of the guys in the group – Jeremy, Francis and Tony so really feels quite at home. It's so refreshing to see you all enjoying an evening out – it makes my work as a volunteer so much easier when you are all so open.

I wish it was as easy as that Laura, but it takes new members a while to feel comfortable. Do you remember the Indian Restaurant we went to recently what did you think?

Oh my, well noisy, hectic and so many people. We alone took up 3 large tables. We definitely need more volunteers don't you think John. Yes we have more people these days and it can be quite daunting.



Tamatanga Indain Restaurant October 2011

We're always looking for new activities Laura, do you have any ideas? That's difficult John, because you've all done so much – I've been on

your web-site. What about something outward bound for those keen on the idea! H'm it's something I am sure we'll consider.

So you've been to a few of our activities what about meeting people on their own terms. Visiting them at home or going shopping? Yes it's something I'd like to do, because you don't have time at an activity to talk to someone alone.

Well it sounds as if you'll be with us for a while, thanks.



John and Laura

Need Day 2011



We held this on Saturday 29th October and Barbara talked to us as a group about what Open Minds does and how it could change to suit new people. A selection of volunteers sat amongst the members to explain the questions.

All Ours – Sunday 13th November 2011

We were invited to this group to join with their Sunday afternoon meal event. 8 of the group went along to see what was available. There was soup, cakes, tea/coffee or soft drinks, fruit and most of all good company. The Sunday newspapers were available on our table and some were invited to play pool or play some music.



We hope to produce another newsletter for February, so see you then!

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All activities are chosen for the following:

Accessibility

Safety

Ease of use for vulnerable people

Staff and volunteers are on hand to ensure you have fun enjoy yourselves, and have a pleasant time.

Look forward to meeting you soon.