



# Artsminds

[www.artsminds.org.uk](http://www.artsminds.org.uk)

## Artsminds Gathering Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2006

Thank you to all of you who attended the gathering held at the Community Crossroads (former Railway Museum) on the 24<sup>th</sup> May.

The evening was the first Artsminds Showcase and the venue provided the perfect setting, as it was full of artwork, installations, photos and interesting artefacts about Brunel and Swindon. The theme of the night was "Made in Swindon" and Artsminds members brought along their work and showcased themselves.

First on was a new Member Tom Ward from Sandstorm Media, based at the Wroughton Science Museum. He showed us a clip from a music video he had produced using CGI, green screen and other technologies that not only looked amazing but also provided an insight into how it was made.

Find out more about Sandstorm media by visiting their website [www.sandstormmedia.co.uk](http://www.sandstormmedia.co.uk) or contact Tom on [tom@sandstormmedia.co.uk](mailto:tom@sandstormmedia.co.uk)

Andy Preston then entertained us with his melodic electronic music. A subtle blend of sounds and rhythms that introduced many in attendance to this kind of music for the first time.

Check out Andy's website at [www.edge-effect.co.uk](http://www.edge-effect.co.uk).

Another new member Judith Cranswick introduced the room to her novels. As a local author her crime novels, based in Swindon are nationally recognised and a great read.

**Read Judith's presentation by following the link**  
[www.swindon.gov.uk/artsminds163.pdf](http://www.swindon.gov.uk/artsminds163.pdf)

If you would like to get in touch with Judith her email is [Judith.cranswick@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:Judith.cranswick@tiscali.co.uk) OR visit her website at [www.judithcranswick.co.uk](http://www.judithcranswick.co.uk)

Andy Hill from the Wyvern Theatre gave an overview of the Wyvern including the work they have been doing and coming shows, including this year's pantomime Cinderella, with Britt Ekland as the fairy godmother.

Janet Korsak made it three new members presenting and introduced her company Coolscapes. Which designs and makes water sculptures.

**Janet's presentation can be found at**  
[www.swindon.gov.uk/artsminds164.pdf](http://www.swindon.gov.uk/artsminds164.pdf)

If you would like to get in touch with Janet her email is  
[jkorsak@coolscapes.co.uk](mailto:jkorsak@coolscapes.co.uk) OR visit her website at [www.coolscapes.co.uk](http://www.coolscapes.co.uk)

Maggie Harris - Faculty head of Art and Design, Music and Technology at St Josephs Catholic college, gave a presentation about the work her students had been involved in and produced.

**Maggie's presentation can be viewed at**  
[www.swindon.gov.uk/artsminds173.pdf](http://www.swindon.gov.uk/artsminds173.pdf)

Gordon Dickinson, local artist brought along a treasured friend, his eagle sculpture. He then went on to explain some of the processes behind making such a sculpture as well as showing the passion that drives an independent artist and the love they have towards their work.

**More of Gordon's work can be found on his website**  
[www.gordondickinson.co.uk](http://www.gordondickinson.co.uk)

Martha Parry finished off the evening, with help from friends and introduced the work around the community crossroads, including the rolling exhibition.

The evening finished around 7.30pm as a second event had been arranged to start at 8pm. The mechanics' Institution day, which is the anniversary of the day thousands travelled to Swindon to witness the laying of the Mechanics' Institution foundation stone on Queen Victoria's birthday. The evening included the first public screening of "Fire & Steel", the definitive film about the railway town and its works.

It was a night not to have missed and one that will definitely become a regular event.

**News, debate, discuss, plan, share,  
collaborate, partnership, network....**

