

## Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May

Dozens of Poynton residents came to the museum to take advantage of our special offer of free admission on May 16th. Armed with their Council tax bills to prove residency they came along to see what their local museum had to offer.

Many admitted to not having been before and they were all amazed at how big the museum actually is and how much there is to do. Repeatedly we were told that they had been meaning to come along but somehow had never found the time before.

In the local history area visitors marvelled at the giant map of Poynton showing the parish as it was c1900.

Local historian Roy Dudley was available to answer residents questions and he and fellow model maker John Simpson explained how they had constructed the topographical representation.



*admiring the model*



*watching the blacksmith*

In the craft area there were demonstrations of wood turning and a blacksmith hard at work over the forge.



*heating the irons*

Visitors arrived throughout the day and luckily the weather was kind allowing people to see the external exhibits and enjoy the craft area.



*engine driving chipping machine*

Guided talks around the early engines were greatly appreciated



and many engines run throughout the day to keep visitors enthralled.

*Paul's guided talk*

Many visitors told the volunteers they intend to return and bring friends and relatives. Many commented that they had not allowed sufficient time to visit as there was so much to see.

As the 16<sup>th</sup> May was also International Night of Museums (when museums across the world are asked to open late) the museum stayed open until 8pm and visitors were able to come late and enjoy the engines at twilight.



*explaining how it works*

Among the evening visitors was Ruth Harper (*right*) from the Culture 24 website who took lots of photographs and interviewed visitors about the museum and the Night of Museums concept. See their website for what museums around the country were doing that evening <http://www.culture24.org.uk/home>



*gardner 4t5 glows in the dark*

More photographs will be added to the gallery area of our website soon.