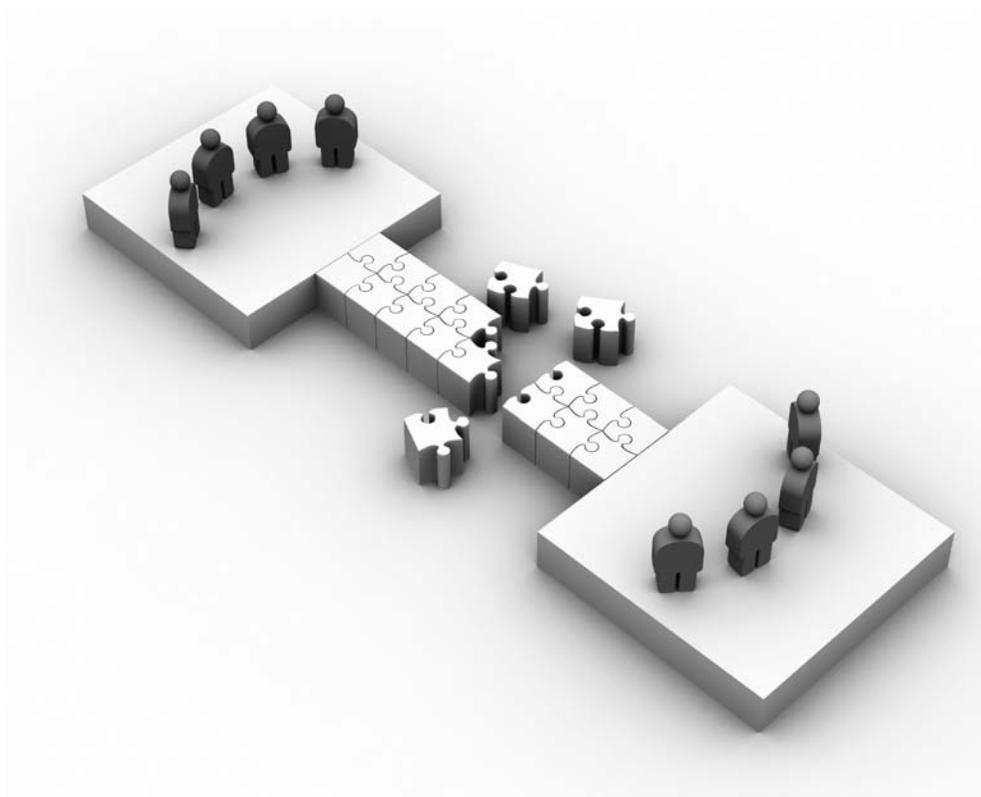


# SPEAK UP

Issue 38  
Winter  
2008

Newsletter from Manchester People First

## Your Jobs fair



See the website at: [www.yourjoblinks.org](http://www.yourjoblinks.org)



Manchester People First and Mencap are organising an event to help people with a learning disability get a job. Employers will have stalls where you can talk to them about what work is on offer.

We held a successful event last year and we hope the event on 5 February 2009 will be even better.

**MENCAP**  
Understanding learning disability

More information  see page 11...



***The Voice of the Learning Disabled***

## What we do

Manchester People First is run by and for learning disabled adults and is independent of all services.

We give training, support and advice to learning disabled adults and professionals and campaign for disabled peoples rights.

## Contact us

Manchester People First  
3 Broughton Street  
Cheetham Hill  
Manchester  
M8 8RF

Phone or Fax (0161) 839-3700

Email: [mcrpeoplefirst@googlemail.com](mailto:mcrpeoplefirst@googlemail.com)

Website: [www.manpf.org](http://www.manpf.org)

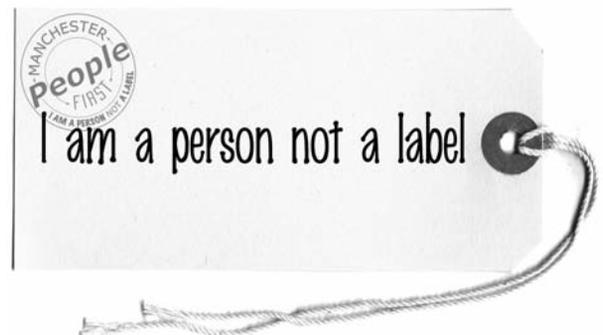
## Our directors

Louisa Burton  
Edward Kane  
Joseph Rooney

## Staff

Stephen Hughes  
Andy Needle  
David Dunnico  
Maureen Day  
Derek Owen

Stephen Blakemore  
Michelle Kozak  
Christopher Kenny



Manchester People First is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, number 6339300. We are a registered charity, number 1124426.

# News

## Annual General Meeting

Manchester People First held it's annual general meeting on Thursday 23 October at our new offices.



Over 25 members came to hear our annual report. Richard Hughes stood down as a director because he has got a new job. We thanked Richard for all his hard work since he was a founder member 16 years ago and presented him with a gift.

There was vote to pick a new director which was won by Louisa Burton. She joins Edward Kane and Joseph Rooney on our board of directors.



Richard thanks members for the gift



Louisa is elected

Read our annual report  see page 5.



# Notice Board

## News and dates for your diary

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### **Closing Dates**

The office will be closed from Friday 19 December until Monday 5 January. We hope you all have a good Christmas and we hope to see you in the new year.

### **Congestion Charging**

Manchester People First has played its part in the consultation about public transport and congestion charging in Manchester. Marcia Bromley and Jack Pickett came from Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive to explain to our members what is going on.



### **Greater Manchester Future Transport**

Everyone in Manchester will be asked to vote on if they want congestion charges. Manchester People First also helped by making a more accessible information leaflet.

### **Survey**

Thank you to those people who sent back the survey in the last issue of the newsletter.

We always like to hear what you think of 'Speak Up'.

Also, please let us know if you change address.

### **Audit Assistants**



Our 3 inspectors, Christopher, Stephen and Michelle, together with David and Maureen, have carried on checking the standard of support for learning disabled adults. They visit houses and write reports for the commissioners of services.

# Can you help?

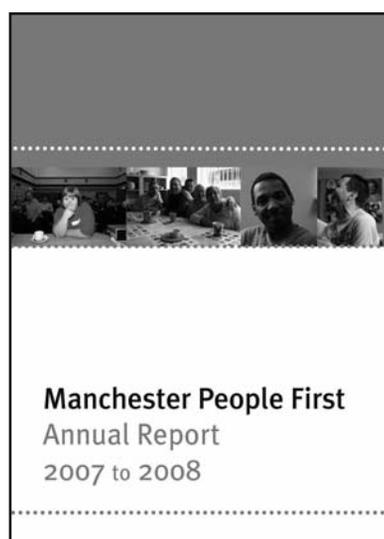
## Places on the Housing sub-group



Manchester Learning Disability Partnership Board looks at the services given to people with a learning disability in Manchester. People First plays a big part in this work. The Board also has sub-groups to look more closely at different services. It needs someone with a learning disability to join the housing sub-group. The sub-group meets every 2 to 3 months on a Wednesday morning at our offices. If you want to know more, please get in touch with us for a talk.

The Board has its last meeting of this year on Tuesday 11 November.

## Annual report out now



Every year we write a report about what we have done and what money we have spent. This is our annual report which we send out to all our members, funders and supporters. Because we have become a limited company and a charity, this year our report runs from April 2007 to March 2008. The report was read out at our AGM (see page 3) and we will send everyone a copy. You can download older annual reports from our website: [www.manpf.org](http://www.manpf.org)

The Fun Filled  
Bit in the Middle

3 facts Did you know?

**Louisa is now a director**  
**Our annual report is out**  
**Your Job Links is back**

**Michelle's Top 5 Telly**



- 1. Eastenders
- 2. Coronation St.
- 3. Paul O' Grady
- 4. Hollyoaks
- 5. Emmerdale



**NAME THE**



**brand?**

A: Tesco (Value range)

**Stephen's Top 5 Food**



- 1. Chips
- 2. Pies
- 3. Fish
- 4. Pot noodle
- 5. Bacon

**Where in Manchester is this?**

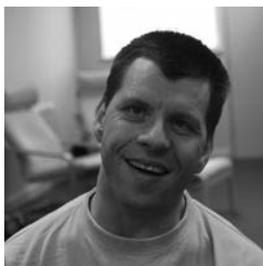


Answer: New Islington (Ancoats)

## Can you get through the Maze?



### Christopher's Top 5 Reds



1. Rooney
2. Solskjaer
3. Neville
4. Giggs
5. Ronaldo





## New exhibition: **'Felt'**



Andrew Burnham MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport took time out from the Labour Party conference to visit Venture Arts and help kick off our exhibition tour 2008.

Wayne Tarry, one of the people who made the work said: 'I really enjoyed exploring textures and have done loads of textiles, drawings, felt-making, and textured slides. I have learnt a lot and really enjoy being able to

The artwork for the exhibition was created by over 50 people from Manchester, over six months and took a lot of



think about new things and do stuff for myself. It gives me a great feeling to be able to show others my work too'.

hard work and talent. All the work was produced at the Venture Arts Studio on Old Birley Street in Hulme.

The name of the exhibition is 'FELT' as the whole show is about textures and uses painting, drawing, collage, felt-making, sewing, ceramics, mixed media and much more.

The exhibition was launched in the Community and Education displays at The Lowry, Salford Quays on 8 October. It was a great day and over 130 people came along to view the new work. It will run at the Lowry until the 24 November and will then move to Zion Arts Centre, Stretford Road, Hulme, Manchester from 6 to 22 December. It is well worth a visit!



## **Guest writer: Venture Arts**

### **Globe**

The focal point of the exhibition is 'Globe': a big, stand alone, revolving ball covered in textured artworks. People experience this work by touching it, looking at it, moving around it, turning it around, and enjoying it.

Venture Arts runs workshops for adults who have a learning disability in Manchester. Using lots of mediums, we encourage active participation in and exploration of visual arts, so that people can develop their own artistic talent.

### **Places**

We currently have places available for budding artists in the Manchester area. If you would like to join, contact us at:

Venture Arts

43 Old Birley Street

Hulme M15 5RF

Phone: 0161 232 1223

Email: [info@venturearts.org](mailto:info@venturearts.org)

Website: [www.venturearts.org](http://www.venturearts.org)

## **LINK**



The Manchester Local Involvement Network is a new group that lets local people have a say over how the National Health Service works in our area.

They are looking for an adult with a learning disability who lives in Manchester, to join them and help make sure that the health service is as good as it can be.

The position needs someone who can go to meetings.

If you want to talk about it, please get in touch.





# our new address...

Manchester People First has new offices,  
this is how to get in touch with us.

 Manchester People First  
3 Broughton Street  
Cheetham Hill  
Manchester  
M8 8RF

 Phone or Fax: (0161) 839-3700

 Email: [mcrpeoplefirst@googlemail.com](mailto:mcrpeoplefirst@googlemail.com)

 Web: [www.manpf.org](http://www.manpf.org)



1. From Piccadilly Gardens, walk to Lever Street Bus stand E. Get bus number 135 (First Bus run the service about every 10 minutes).



2. Get off at Cheetham Hill Road / Derby Street stop just before The Jewish Museum and before you get to Manchester Fort shopping park.



3. Cross Cheetham Hill Road at the pelican and walk down Broughton Street.



4. Our office is at the end of the road on the right.





**MENCAP**  
*Understanding learning disability*



[www.yourjoblinks.org](http://www.yourjoblinks.org)

**Jobs fair for adults with a  
learning disability in Manchester**

# your job links<sup>'09</sup>

**Note new date:**

**Thursday 5 February 2009**

**10am – 3.30pm**

**Manchester Conference Centre  
(opposite UMIST)**

**Sackville Street  
Manchester**





**Manchester People First  
and Venture Arts**

# **XMAS PARTY**

**Thursday**

**11 December**

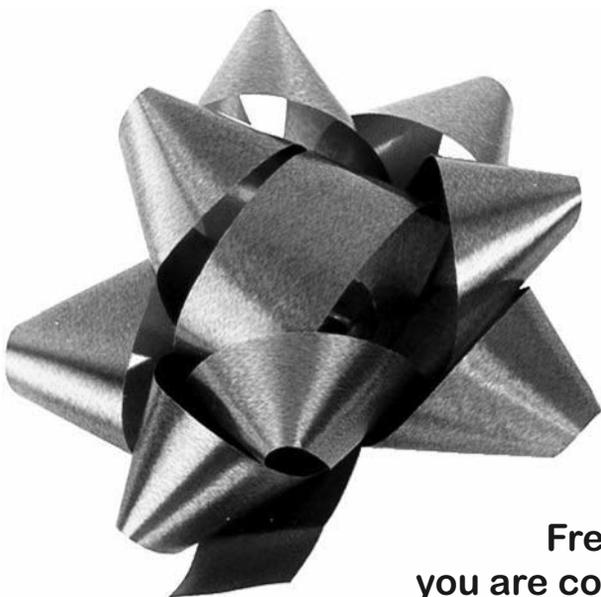
**12-4pm**

**Zion Arts Centre**

**335 Stretford Rd**

**Hulme**

**M15 5ZA**



Free – but ring to tell us  
you are coming 0161 839-3700  
You need to sort out your own transport

