

Home School with Charnwood Museum

Designers, Creators and Makers!

Charnwood has been home to some very creative people over the years who have been innovative and inventive. Found out about some of them here in this fact sheet!

Bromakin

Bromakin is a Loughborough based wheelchair company specialising in sports wheelchairs and was founded in 1983 by Peter and Sheila Carruthers.

Peter was involved in a car accident which resulted in him becoming a full-time wheelchair user. He was a keen sportsman and wanted to continue his active lifestyle but discovered there were few options for him and his needs.

He adapted an existing chair and developed it through several stages to be a specialist racing chair like the one on display at the Museum.

Peter had a very successful racing career and won a gold medal at the 1988 Seoul Paralympics.



The Beaumanor Chair

The chair on display at the museum was hand carved by an employee of the Beaumanor Hall estate, from the trunk of a single tree. Dating back to 1690 it is reported that the circumference of the tree was over 10mtrs!

The buffalo head and shield are both features of the Herrick family crest, who owned the Beaumanor Estate, which is in Woodhouse, Leicestershire.



Ladybird Books

The iconic illustrated Ladybird Books for children were originally published in Loughborough. The small publishing company, Wills and Hepworth printed the first Ladybird Book in 1914, but the now famous 'pocket-sized' Ladybird Books were introduced in 1940.

The reason for the pocket-sized books was a response to paper shortages caused by the Second World War. The whole book could be printed a single sheet of paper measuring 114mm by 178mm and with strategic cuts in certain places, create 56 pages!

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As you will see from the fact sheet, Charnwood has been the home to many a creative person over the years, can you answer the questions below?

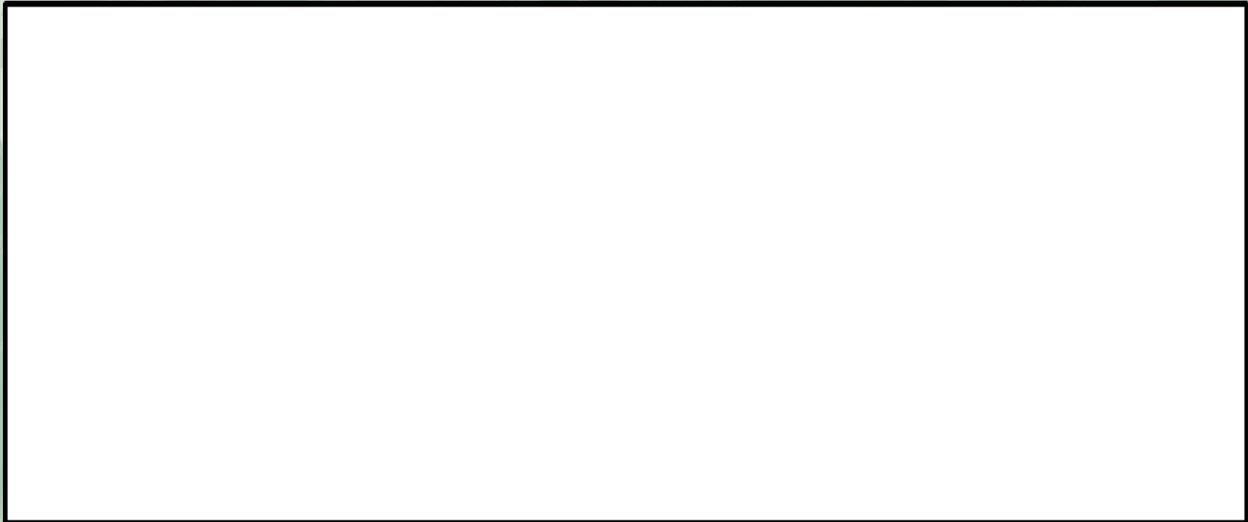
Keep those wheels turning!

Who designed the wheelchair on display?

What do you think makes this wheelchair important – what was it designed for?

Do you think you could improve the design? If so, what would you do differently and why?

Use this space to show us your design:



Designing for Comfort

What item of old furniture is on display in the museum?

What year was it made?

Why do you think it was made?

Do you think it is comfortable to sit on and why?

Is it a good design? Would you like it in your house? Explain your answers

Don't judge a book by its cover.....

What was different about the way the Ladybird Books were printed from other books at the time(1940s)?

Why were they printed like this?

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Ladybird books were famous for their illustrations, can you find out the names of some of the illustrators – write them down here:

Take a look online at some examples of their work– which one is your favourite and why?

Have a go at drawing it here:

A Charnwood Creation?!

Here is the Charnwood Museum logo:



Where have you seen this logo?

Have a go at designing your version of the logo and tell us what you have included and why: