

## The Forum Expands Across The Valley



At the beginning of August the Gaunt Shops were a hive of activity. Not only were the newly painted shop shutters causing a real stir among local people, but the movers were in and 187 Blackstock Road: the home of Gleadless Valley Community Forum was being emptied. A range of staff from the Forum have now relocated to the excellent new facility in Herdings, at the top of the Valley, simply known as Herdings Youth Club. The venue was reopening by Uriah Rennie back in November of 2010 and now the Forum has been entrusted with the task of managing and developing the building, making sure that it is open and available to everyone within the Gleadless Valley community. An open day is planned for September once all those little teething problems with phone lines and internet connections have been ironed out, so look out for posters advertising the event or keep an eye on our website.

The Forum will still be busy at the Gaunt Shops. In fact, perhaps busier than ever. The 187 office is now undergoing a major facelift and will be reopening in September as the much improved Online open access Computer Centre for the benefit of the community. This will be known as Phase 3 of the Forum's programme. Once complete, we will be working with the City Council, local traders and other community partners to plan the development of a local community café at 181 Blackstock Road (previously the Valley Online Centre). While this is only in the planning stage, it is an exciting project and will be a wonderful asset for the community, a real meeting point and place to sit and chat over a cup of tea.



Work begins on the redevelopment of 187 Blackstock Road while for Valley Education and Skills Project Coordinator, Maxine, it's business as usual.



Wendy Furniss and Forum Volunteer, Terry, get down to work at the Herdings Centre.