Further Information for New Users

Education and Outreach Loan Service

Through the use of our loan boxes, people who are unable to visit the museum can access, and engage with, the collection. All of the items in the NMMS’s loan/reminiscence boxes are objects from NMMS’s or partner organisations collections. While the boxes were particularly designed for reminiscence in care or residential settings, their educational and interactive properties make them ideal for schools, youth and community groups as well.

About the loan boxes

All our loan boxes are completely free to borrow and cover a range of themes. All our boxes contain objects relating to Scottish living and working lives and therefore, many items are heavy. Contained within each loan box, in addition to handling objects, are photographs and information to stimulate conversation, enjoyment, learning and engagement. If you are looking for something in particular or even to create a session spanning decades/ themes then please get in touch and we will try to accommodate this as well.

Booking a loan box

You’ve read all the info, you’ve decided on which box you would like to loan for your organisation/group, so here’s what to do next:

- Contact us via email at education@nationalminingmuseum.com or call us on 0131 663 7519

Loan kits may be borrowed for up to 1 month, subject to availability and can be collected Mon-Fri 10am-4pm by appointment. When collecting your loan box you will be asked to sign our loan agreement, which includes our terms and conditions.
Transportation of loan boxes

Our loan boxes are available for collection from the National Mining Museum Scotland. A member of staff will meet you and assist you in loading the box into your vehicle. We will provide a trolley to use with each loan box. It is your responsibility to ensure the following:

- Your vehicle is fit for purpose and can accommodate the loan box
- Someone at your organisation is available to help you unload the loan box at your venue
- Loan boxes cannot be stored in any vehicle overnight and should be stored in a secured location when not in use

Using the loan box and health and safety

We have had great feedback from all previous users of our loan boxes. The boxes can be set up as mini exhibitions at your venue or they can be used for facilitated reminiscence/educational handling sessions.

All objects are from the collection and therefore, are old and often heavy. All due care should be taken when handling the objects.

Returning the loan box

A date will be agreed for returning the loan box upon collection. If you are unable to meet this date we ask that you notify NMMS staff as soon as possible. All loan boxes should be returned to the National Mining Museum main office. NMMS will be there to assist you with unloading the box from your vehicle.