

QUARTER 2/ JUL - SEPT 23

hoot
creative arts

OUT OF
THE BLUE
&
BREATHING
SPACE

Photos from Yorkshire Sculpture Park trip



Being creative
makes you feel good

Highlights

We continued to bed in the Music and Visual Art Progress groups and after an initial 'getting to know you' jam series, the Music group are now finding their groove and composing their own pieces.

We took a very special trip to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park this summer – working in partnership with YSP we offered a full day of activities for **hoot** participants.

hoot delivered a taster session S2R's Blues Group. Unsurprisingly this group had a penchant for music and were keen to try the **hoot** approach. Subsequently we have had referrals from people from the Blues Group so this was a really positive demonstration of partnership working.

The Working Together Better partnership awareness campaign – speaking as a partnership to staff from statutory services – continued this quarter with presentations to the Talking Therapies Team, Combatting Drugs Partnership and Social Prescribing Link Worker teams.

hoot staff completed a day Theory of Change Training and a half day Safeguarding Training provided by Nick Wilsdon of Nesta and Jill Webb Training respectively.

Our social media channels saw a sustained increase in followers and engagement on Facebook and Instagram.



HERD

Residents rejoiced in watching gigantic sheep move around the borough as part of the Kirklees Year of Music Herd project. **hoot**-created soundscapes were emitting from Aina the mother sheep! <https://fb.watch/nlcmg5cjEY/>



TASTER SESSION AT HOOT

We held an activity taster session at **hoot** for people to have a look around, chat about our offer and get hands on with making. We made mod-roc birds with referrers leaving amazed at how quickly they could create something unique and ready to refer people our way.



STOP MOTION ALIENS!

We hosted animation artist Joe Watson in the studio this summer. Group members made clay alien figures that were then filmed and animated.



YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK VISIT

hoot participants took a summer trip out to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, a wonderful day that let us be artists, view world class art exhibitions and enjoy some time together out in nature.

“ This is the best place in Huddersfield for mental health support, **hoot** makes things happen. ”

Out of the Blue activities



MUSIC

All music groups – online, Huddersfield, Dewsbury, Progress and Digital – completing soundscapes for the Herd project as part of Kirklees Year of Music. As the sheep descended into St Georges Square outside Huddersfield Train Station we were proud to hear our music bleating from Aina, the Mother Sheep.

We worked with Joe Moore who led the group in writing jazz tunes – an uplifting experience. The digital studio transformed into an animation studio over the summer with artist Joe Watson leading the group in creating small coloured clay models that were manipulated into moving for an animation based on the idea of an Alien Party.

VISUAL ARTS

Visual arts continues to be popular across all 4 groups. Resident artist Sally Barker delivered mod roc, fabric design and coil pots, Vic Cruz ran workshops on printmaking and book-binding and Musarat Raza showed the group Persian Mandala designs as inspiration in creating their own designs on ceramic tiles.

SINGING

Georgia Jakubiak, a new artist to **hoot**, enthused the group by arranging well-known songs for harmony singing. People enjoy hearing songs they know in a new format and more so when they get to bring those songs to life. We also worked with Jess Baker and Siobhan Donnelly.

CREATIVE WRITING

We hosted a variety of lead artists this summer: Tara Guha, Winston Plowes, Rachel Newsome and Emma Decent. The artists all offer diverse approaches to writing and work ranged from fiction adventure to poems on food and wellbeing.



“ Music is a big part of my life and **hoot** provides the creativity in my life which helps my wellbeing. ”

“ I'm loving it. New skills, different artwork. It makes me relax, so good for mental health. I want to do more. ”

In-person activity



WELCOME!

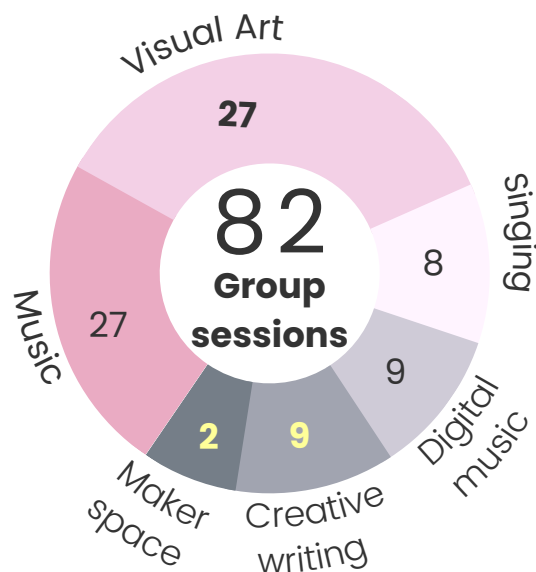
56

individuals at
welcome sessions



102

attendees at activities



Photos from Yorkshire Sculpture Park trip

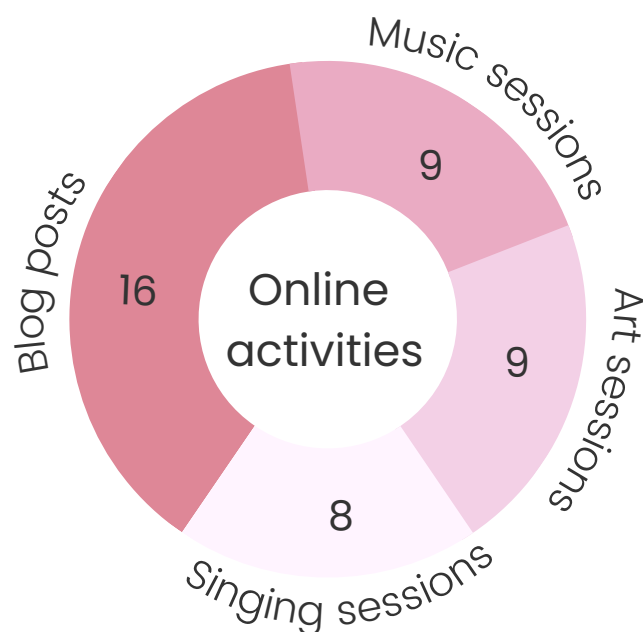


I really enjoy coming to **hoot**, it gets me out of the house and gives me a chance to talk to other people which I otherwise don't do often. I feel like it is a really inclusive space where we feel welcomed and supported. The activities that we do are great, and I love having something to work towards while allowing creative ideas out.

All of this put together really helps me improve my mental health.



hoot from home activity



28 participants took part in online activities



483 hours of contact with participants online



14 hours

spent offline on average per person, continuing creative work independently through the quarter.

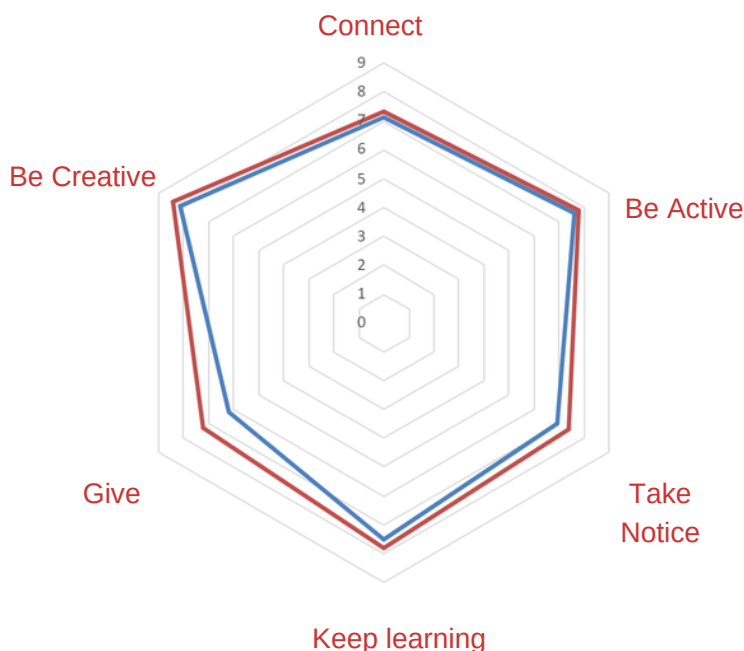
“ Always welcomed by a friendly face. I can relax when I am here. ”

“ Fun sessions, great being social with other peers in the group. The sessions are creative and I get immersed in it. ”

Outcomes

The trend in Outcomes measured this quarter was for an increase in all Ways to Wellbeing scores with a particular rise in the 'Give' measure.

— Previous assessment (service ave)
— Current assessment (service ave)



A day at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park

This summer we had the privilege of being invited to visit the Yorkshire Sculpture Park for a day of free activities.

9 participants attended our trip out to visit an exhibition by artist Lindsay Mendick, followed by a private clay workshop. Lunch and transport from **hoot** to Yorkshire Sculpture Park (by Denby Dale Centre) was provided to participants for free.

Participants were guided around the exhibition with commentary from Yorkshire Sculpture Park artists and were invited to view nearby sculptures: 'Myth' by Damien Hurst and the 'IOU Sound Wave Collider with composition' by Jason Singh.



In the afternoon, we attended a private clay workshop with a Yorkshire Sculpture Park artist. Inspired by Mendick's exhibition, we sculpted creatures usually considered unpleasant (e.g. flies, rats, slugs etc) and made them beautiful by printing patterns into clay. The sculptures created were fired and returned to participants to keep.

To have the Yorkshire Sculpture Park on our doorstep is a treat but it can seem inaccessible to many and two thirds of attendees on this visit had never visited before. This trip enabled people to visit in a practical sense, but also built confidence around visiting galleries and esteemed institutions such as the Yorkshire Sculpture Park.

“

I loved it, it made me so happy. The staff are lovely and I would love to come again and it has given me peace and happiness

Fab. Positive experience.
Nicely challenging

Wonderful. I like the YSP, never been before. I feel calmer after doing this today. It's made me very happy

I'm feeling calm and happy. I enjoyed listening to the sound, it was relaxing – it made me giggle and smile

”

Added value

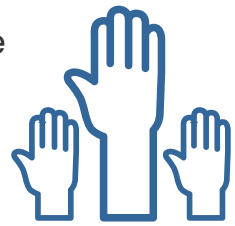
hoot is the Health & Wellbeing programme lead for Kirklees Year of Music 2023 and this quarter the added value this offered was 3 Speak Our Music events with 10 attendances totalling 26 contact hours.

The Creative Pathways project – creative groups for people with learning disabilities – began delivery this quarter in Enfield Down and Laurel Court residences. There were 18 sessions, 56 attendances and 98 contact hours.

Breathing Space Update

‘Living Well with Dementia Support Group’ in Dalton.

We have had several discussions with the volunteers who run the group and following these conversations they are keen for us to adopt them. A ‘working together agreement’ has been drafted and is being reviewed by the volunteer team with hopes for sessions to run from late October.



Carers Count and Hoot Creative Arts invite you to...

Join us for a fun and friendly creative social on Tuesday, September 26th, 1.30pm-3.30pm at Empire House, Wakefield Old Road, Dewsbury, WF12 8DJ

This session is aimed at people with dementia, their friends and carers, and will cater for a range of physical abilities.

Let us know how many biscuits we need to buy by booking your place:

0300 0120 231

info@carerscount.org.uk

hoot creative arts **Carers Count**

Working in partnership with Carers Count

There is a monthly Dewsbury session in the development phase, this is for people with dementia and their carers. This is in response to carers who are a part of the service indicating that they would appreciate these kinds of sessions. We will be phone consulting with those interested and those who booked on to find out what their barriers might be for attending in-person sessions and what we can do to tackle them.

Breathing Space Summer Social

Previous participants were invited to join us for a creative afternoon tea and get together. This was a fantastic opportunity to have an informal consultation and catch up with people. Sadly, many of the former participants had either passed away or their dementia had progressed to a stage that they were no longer able to attend. Those that did attend really enjoyed the session; it was clear that the sessions had meant a great deal to them and they shared why they felt the sessions are important to support others who have been affected by dementia in similar ways.



The consultation evidenced our previous assumptions about changing the model of delivery for our dementia services to an umbrella of delivery styles and models responding to the cross-segmentation of those affected by dementia, including supporting participant independence, carer support, post-bereavement services, and a befriending service led by those that have been affected by dementia.



Thursday Group

We successfully adopted the 'Thursday Group', a group for people with dementia who are of working age. The activities have been developed with the participants and the volunteers and there is a programme of creative activities, movement and go-sees that take us to the end of March 2024.

The group were keen to maintain flexibility in their weekly sessions so we have also developed creative training with the volunteers to teach them basic creative activities that they can lead on. These sessions will be delivered by our in-house visual artist, the sessions will inform the copy for a printed toolkit aimed at people working with people with dementia to demonstrate how arts and creativity is an enriching experience for people with dementia and instil confidence on how to deliver these activities in an accessible and meaningful way.

Due to the change in delivery model, we are reviewing how we gain evaluation, as carers do not attend our current regular session. The plan is to develop this tool with the volunteers at the Dalton Group, with the volunteers' assessing changes in individuals and gaining insight from their contact with the participants family.



Photos from Breathing Space's Summer Social

People 😊 😊 😊



156

people accessing
the services

Outreach: 8



40

new referrals to
the service

33



people under the age of 35

123



people over the age of 35



49

people who consider themselves
disabled



36

people with autism, dementia,
a learning disability, or other
hidden disability

What next?

New Ways of Partnership Working

Our partnership with Kirklees Dementia Hub for 'Thursday Group' is going well. Referrals are coming through via Memory Clinic and we have a steady number of 16 attendees (including two carers).

Developing Services

Unfortunately, the wild weather of summer scuppered many of our plans for community outreach events; Kumon Y'All in Dewsbury was rained off, the Food and Drink festival was cancelled and two taster events with Carers Count in Dewsbury competed against a heatwave. We will continue to look for future opportunities.

Training and Awareness around Creative Dementia Services

Volunteers at the Young Onset Thursday Group have worked with Estelle to help direct the type of creative training that they would find the most useful for the group. The 'Out of the Box' creative skills training will take place on 19th October. This is a pilot to explore DIY/Progression for routes in Breathing Space.

hoot creative arts

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