

Summary 👯

The summer has been a busy time for **hoot** with numbers in groups building, Out of Hours offers proving popular and 2 welcome taster sessions which led to 6 referrals. Referral numbers were high again this quarter with 56 of the 103 referrals being for Out of Hours activities.

We had a strong presence in North Kirklees this summer with our Saturday sessions including Mandala painting and designing Tote bags at Dewsbury and Ravensthorpe Libraries.

We encouraged participants to take up cultural opportunities by working in partnership with Kirklees Town Halls to enable people to get free tickets to see a Beatles Tribute Act.

Social media channels were again used to publicise **hoot** and our offers: Facebook reach increased from 5000 to 8000 people whilst other platforms remained stable.

It's a good way of passing the time, enabling me to get out of the house and be creative is very helpful for my wellbeing



Work by David Slater





Work by Mandy

Highlights





We spent summer evenings in the Growing Works community allotment with the group using nature as their muse: natural resources and inspiration created beautiful artworks.



Fully booked in Libraries!

Both our creative workshops on Saturdays in Dewsbury and Ravensthorpe libraries were fully booked before even the first session.

Heritage Quay exhibition view

Huddersfield Visual art participants enjoyed an afternoon at Heritage Quay seeing their Leonard-Baskin inspired images projected onto the big curvy screen to friends and family who were invited to this private view.

See the photos

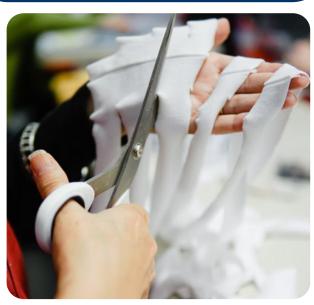
Watch the <u>video</u>

Really look forward to the singing online sessions they are a lifeline for me

Dewsbury Arcade visit

We took a visit to The <u>Arcade</u> in Dewsbury and Mike Morson - the Heritage Link Worker - gave a fascinating talk on the architecture and history of The Arcade to inspire participants on their current project which is focused on appreciating the history of the town.





MUSIC

Music groups in Huddersfield and Dewsbury completed their compositions that had been inspired by poetry and visual art. These were then recorded by resident musician Rob Crisp and will be part of a future album release.

The groups then moved onto Beats and Pieces – using sample backgrounds to build their tunes from. This turns upside down the usual process and everybody enjoyed thinking differently about songwriting.

Digital music also worked in a similar fashion using samples and all these pieces will be collated together in a Bandcamp album.

SINGING

The singing group continued working with Ali Bullivent to compose and then perform their own songs as well as using percussion to beat out a rhythm to sing to.

Jess Baker returned to the group to lead them in beautiful complex harmony songs and online, <u>Tembre De Carteret</u> led the group from home in Portugal such is the beauty of online sessions!

CREATIVE WRITING

Winston Plowes continued working with the group which is expanding in numbers and developing a strong community feel. Winston was followed by Sammy Weaver – another group favourite – who has been exploring writing from life: our own lives and those of others to conjure fresh poems and stories.



VISUAL ARTS

The Dewsbury visual arts group continued working on their Blue Denim Jacket – inspired by their visit to the Red Dress exhibition at Oakwell Hall. This jacket will be part of an exhibition in Dewsbury town centre later this year. We had guest artist Vic Cruz working with one of the Huddersfield groups to explore colour with various mediums such as spray inks, stencils and glue art. The group moved onto bookmaking using techniques such as Japanese bind, concertina books, Flag books and more.

In Dewsbury we launched our 'We Love Dewsbury' art project this autumn: the group took sketch books on a walk round town gathering inspiration from the architecture and heritage. The pieces created should culminate in an exhibition at the new Arcade arts centre in Dewsbury.

Work by Linda

OUT OF HOURS

This quarter we ran groups across evenings and weekends including: Rap Rhythm and Rhyme with Jack Flash; Making Mandalas and Tote Bags with Musarat Raza; Knitting and Weaving with Julia Roebuck; Art on the Allotment with Sally Barker. Venues included Ravensthorpe library, Cleckheaton library, Growing Works allotment, Ten Queen st and The Watershed in Slaithwaite.

We also ran Summer Sizzler sessions where we brought mixed artforms together for people to play with music, art and words all at the same time. We used these sessions as a freeflowing space for participants to socialise and give feedback as well as providing space to host a 'digital clinic' with staff from Virgin Media who helped participants with questions about mobile phones and online access issues. Kirklees Wellness Service also attended in Dewsbury and worked with several participants who wanted to quit smoking







The numbers ***



234 people using the service

103 referrals to sessions



102 in-person sessions



weekend sessions

evening sessions

in-person

in-person

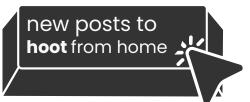
Thursday Group Visual 13 Art Singing 8 37 Writing 9

Music



Online sessions

23



online creative sessions



hours

spent offline continuing being creative average per person



People



people with autism, dementia, or a disability

people over 35 39 people under 35



7% 62% 1%

Male

Female

Non-binary

Outcomes & Evaluation

Using **SWEMWBS** – the Shorter Warwick Edinburgh Wellbeing Scale – participants answered 7 questions about their overall wellbeing. The answers are translated into a numerical score which is plotted on the box and whisker chart below. The Y axis spans the range of Wellbeing Scores from 7 (the lowest possible) to 35 (the highest possible). Based on national averages, Low wellbeing is a score of 19.5 or below, High wellbeing is a score of 27.5 or above with Normal wellbeing sitting between these.

The box on the chart represents the main cluster of individuals' survey answers. The 'x' represents the average score and the lines above and below represent the full range of wellbeing scores. The dots represent 'outliers', scores that are atypical and might be particularly high or low for reasons that include how well the scorer understood the survey.

As the SWEMWBS questionnaire debuted fully at **hoot** in April we have amalgamated the baseline scores from participants who answered the questionnaire in Quarter 1 with those for Quarter 2 to ensure a larger and more valid sample size. Going forward

Baseline Y2 Q1 and 2 SWEMWBS

35

20

15

10

this represents a cohort baseline score for the people who answered in Q1 and 2. Subsequent SWEMWBS surveys with this group of people will be able to show distance travelled which we can show as a cohort as well as for individuals.

Of note the average wellbeing score in the UK is around 23 (a 'normal wellbeing' score) and the baseline score at **hoot** was 20.33 which is what we might expect for an organisation where people come to boost their wellbeing.

However even in the face of overall lower wellbeing than the national average, 93% of people have self-reported against the service's KPIs that being involved with **hoot** has had a positive impact on wellbeing and 79% said that being at **hoot** has helped them feel part of a community.



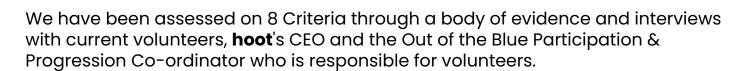
We are still working closely with Evaluation expert Nick Wilsdon at Figurative who is able to give advice to ensure this tool is as valid as possible.

Challenges

We are still bedding in the new Outcomes tools with Wellbeing Plans and SWEMWBS surveys being used; during quarter two these new systems became smoother and quicker and team members and participants started to see the benefits.

Volunteering with hoot

This quarter we applied for and achieved the Kirklees Volunteer Quality Award. The award, which is recognised across Yorkshire, is managed and assessed by a partnership between TSL Kirklees Volunteering, Kirklees Council and the TSL Kirklees Volunteer Managers Network. The certificate is awarded to organisations to show that they value their volunteers and offer a high-quality volunteering experience. It demonstrates that we are following national best practice in how we recruit, train and support volunteers.



The Volunteering Quality Award panel identified a wide range of good practice including:

- Volunteers have clear roles, expectations and boundaries
- Staff understand the role of volunteers within the organisation and the value they bring
- There are robust procedures relating to volunteering, in particular problem solving
- Volunteers are supported throughout their journey, including during the exit process.
- Quarterly reports recognise volunteer activity.

We said goodbye to two volunteers this quarter who have moved onto education and travel opportunities. We are also welcoming two new volunteers to support our Music and Singing groups with more new volunteers on the horizon.





Breathing Space / Thursday Group



This group has been really active this quarter with a full programme of social activities, chair yoga from Umbrella Yoga and creative sessions from **hoot** artists.

The group made decorated memory books and coral reef textile collages with carnival artist Marina Poppa and received their needle felted textile piece from Lianne Woodward and made coiled paper bowls.

The group give consistently good feedback, enjoying activities that challenge them and encourage them to be creative.



There are lots of different things, nice to be creative. Nice space to do it in, I wouldn't do it at home [as] it would take too much organising. Good that staff are helpful and are happy to keep repeating and helping without making me feel stupid. It's nice to do things and be able to talk.

Projects that complement and add value

Creative Pathways continued to deliver creative sessions across Kirklees to people with learning disabilities. Out of the Blue works in a complementary parallel with this programme to ensure that people are in a group that best matches their style and independence.









436 contact hours

Visions



Building partnerships

Work with Kirklees Libraries goes from strength to strength, with participants benefiting from sessions in safe and central venues and strong customer service from library staff. We have worked with The Watershed Slaithwaite, Kirklees Woven Festival, Growing Works, Huddersfield University Heritage Quays and the Lawrence Batley Theatre this quarter. In addition we have met with Kirklees Museums and Galleries, Creative Scene, Dewsbury Arcade Group and Kirklees Town Halls to create wider opportunities for our participants.

New exhibition opportunities

We had a wonderful event at Heritage Quay this quarter displaying our creations which were inspired by the dreamlike Leonard Baskin drawings. Participants reported feeling proud of their work and enjoying showing it to friends and family. Upcoming showcase opportunities are in the pipeline with The Big Blue Denim Jacket in an upcoming exhibition at Oakwell Hall and a new collaborative artwork will be hung in the pop-up spaces in Princess Walk Dewsbury. We aim to continue to provide safe opportunities for participants to showcase their work and build their confidence and self esteem.

Piloting new Outcomes tools

We bedded in our new Outcomes tools this quarter: SWEMWBS gives an overall objective measure of a person's wellbeing; the KPI questions are people self-reporting the impact of the **hoot** service. One of the advantages of using a validated tool like this is that we can compare the average wellbeing of **hoot** participants with national averages. We now have solid baseline data that in subsequent quarters we can measure distance travelled with – both as a cohort and as individuals.

hoot creative arts

Bates Mill, Milford Street, Huddersfield, HD1 3DX 01484 516224 | www.hootcreativearts.co.uk







Registered Charity 1146358 Company No 07980273









