



# air arts

## Exhibitions

## Newsletter Spring 2024

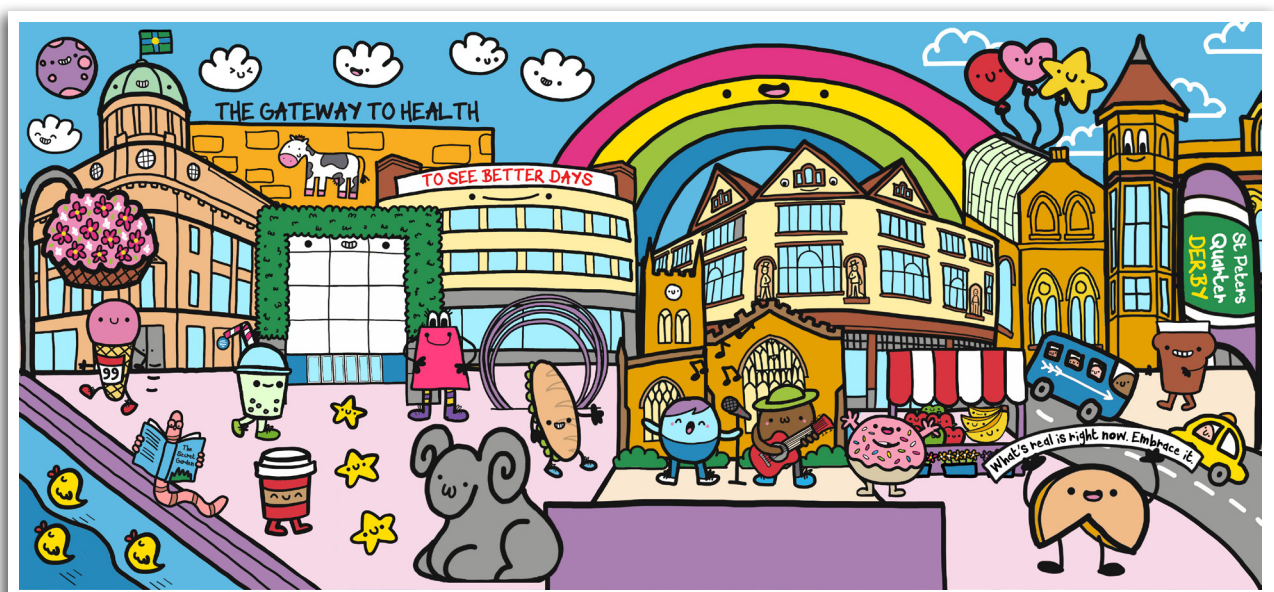
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Preparations are well underway for the launch of our next exhibition Everyday Extraordinary in May.

The 2024-2025 exhibition is inspired by the philosophy of seeking gratitude in everyday life and is themed around the special days of appreciation and celebration which fall throughout the year. Did you know for example that the National Day of Cheese takes place on the 4th of June? The exhibition will showcase artworks from regional artists which respond to one or more these days of appreciation.

Alongside the exhibition, we will also be publishing a new edition of our Fresh magazine. This is packed with the latest news from Air Arts, plus information and images of the artworks on display.

For more information about past and present exhibitions please visit our website [www.airarts.net](http://www.airarts.net)



Pride in St Peters by Carla Dee



# Enhancements

## Hand-painted mural on Ward 303 at Royal Derby Hospital

Artist Lynne Hollingsworth has been commissioned to bring a sense of calm and comfort to the main ward corridors of Ward 303 at Royal Derby Hospital. The work is not quite finished yet, but comments from patients, staff and visitors are very positive about the impact it is having already.



Artist: Lynne Hollingsworth

*'Beautiful... makes such a difference, thank you'*  
- Patient comment.

## Ilkeston Hospital

The newly installed Val Jackson Suite at Ilkeston Community Hospital was in need of some artwork to brighten a long corridor and make the space feel more welcoming. Artist Nick Waters created a vibrant vinyl artwork depicting a local landmark the Bennerley Viaduct. An illusion of space and the feeling of distance has been created by Nick's amazing design.





# Music

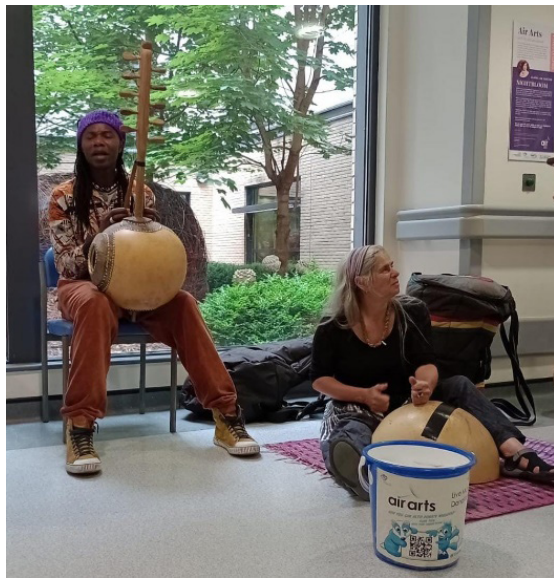
## Live Music Programme



Our music programme has had a brilliant last quarter, and we have been able to support patient and staff wellbeing in various locations across the hospitals. Musicians have visited wards, canteens, waiting areas and public and outside spaces. We have been pleased to welcome an eclectic mix of musicians to our hospitals.

We have been particularly supporting colleagues and patients in cancer services at Queens' and Royal Derby in March, thanks to input from the Operational Patient Experience Group which helped identify this as a particular area of need. We also for the first time welcomed musicians into a labour ward which has been a really exciting development.

We have had the most wonderful feedback about the music, and what a difference it has made to the wellbeing of patients, staff and visitors throughout the Trust.



West African percussion duo Toumaranke

*"Just had the absolute pleasure of meeting James the mandolin player on the ward I've been on for a week at Derby Royal. He played beautifully then invited us to join in on other instruments whilst he accompanied us. It absolutely made my day. I am a musician, so it was great to be able to pick out tunes on the glockenspiel whilst being accompanied by him. But he had such a lovely way about him. It was lovely to experience first-hand some of what you offer. Many thanks."*

*Patient feedback, Royal Derby Hospital.*

*'Amazing playing, absolutely amazing. Seriously, I can't tell you, that has made my day!'*

*Patient feedback, Ilkeston.*

## The Staff Wellbeing Choir



Our staff wellbeing choir have been rehearsing regularly over the last three months, and are looking forward to some high-profile performances later on this year.

The choir continues to spread joy and support staff wellbeing, and if you are a staff member who is interested in joining, please email:

[rosie.rutherford3@nhs.net](mailto:rosie.rutherford3@nhs.net) to see how you can get involved.

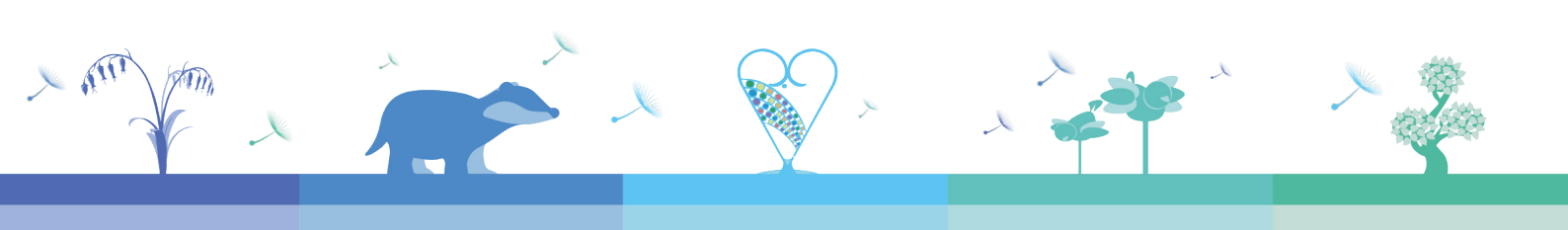
## Patient Experience

### Patient Resources

We are continuing to deliver thousands of Boredom Buster newspapers packed with creative activities, articles and puzzles, as well as copies of our **Fresh** magazine. In an NHS trust with over 1500 inpatient beds, our printed resources are a great way for us to reach more people.







## Vialma Streaming Service

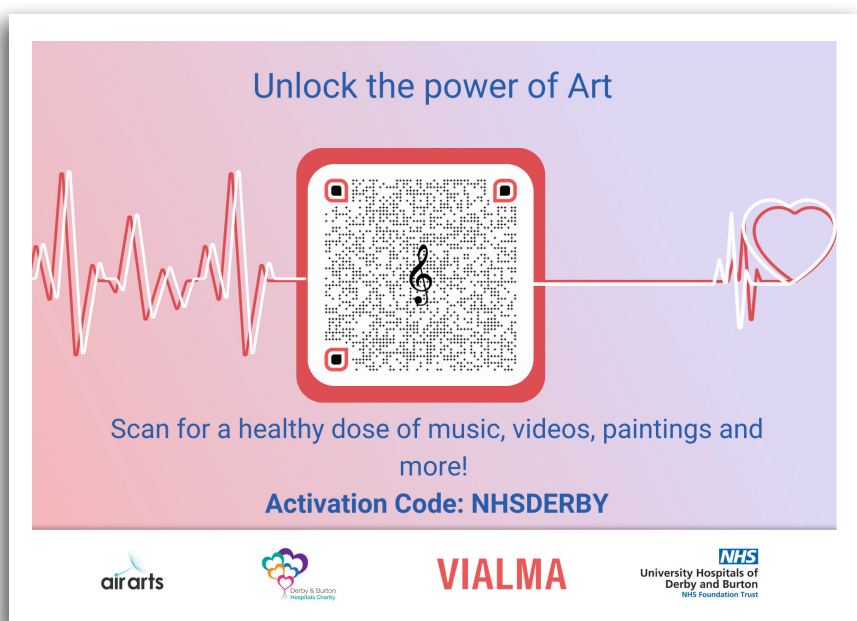
Air Arts are partnering with Vialma, a streaming platform dedicated to arts and culture designed specifically for care homes and hospitals, with a strong emphasis on wellbeing.

It can be accessed for free by any patient, staff or visitor via the QR code or this link [healthandmusicdemo.vialma.com](https://healthandmusicdemo.vialma.com) using the activation code NHSDERBY.

On there is a wide range of diverse content from around the world including music, concerts, ballet and paintings.

There is new content every month with a themed package including video, music and printable activity resources to download. Music playlists are also available, some of them linked to the theme of the month and others with a wellbeing focus such as to help you sleep or to get moving.

Vialma also host two watch party events per year, one in the summer and one in the run up to Christmas. In December 2023, staff and patients enjoyed attending Vialma's Nutcracker watch party as part of a trial.



For more information, please email [Eleanor Babb](mailto:Eleanor.Babb@nhs.uk)

## Appeal for Colouring Pencils

We are currently appealing for donations of new packs of colouring pencils so that we can give them out with our Colour Me Read Me booklets for patients to enjoy.

You can buy a pack for just £2.90 via Derby and Burton Hospitals Charity's Amazon Wishlist: <https://bit.ly/3ThOHoC>



## Art Cart starts at the Royal



We are thrilled to announce the launch of our lovely, very orange Art Cart at Royal Derby Hospital. Volunteers, Alice, María and Jan will be hand delivering copies of **Fresh** and the **Boredom Busters** activity newspapers to patients at Royal Derby Hospital and stopping to chat as well. We are hoping to set up an Art Cart at Queen's Hospital Burton in the coming months.

*"Thanks very much for the Air Arts pack. I have been looking through it as a way of keeping myself amused. Many thanks, I really appreciate your generosity."*

*Feedback from a chemotherapy patient.*

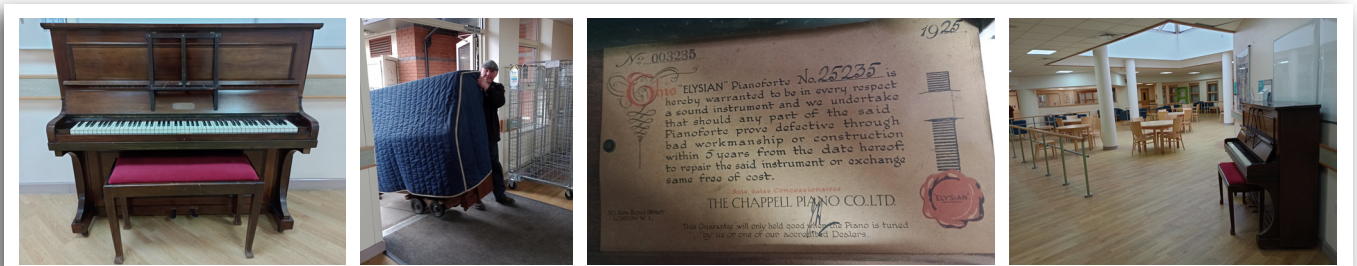


## Herbie comes to Tamworth!

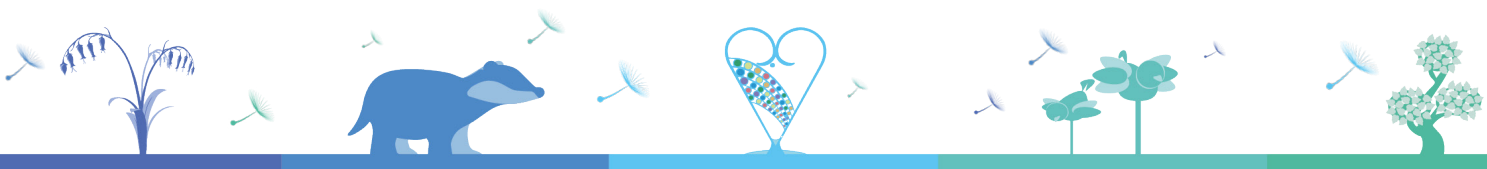
Our new public piano Herbie can be found in the canteen at the Sir Robert Peel Hospital in Tamworth. Herbie was kindly donated by Berwyn and Mary Babb from Stone in Staffordshire and it is named after Berwyn's dad who enjoyed playing this piano for many years.

The piano will be 100 years old next year and was made by Chappell Pianos. The original beautifully hand-written guarantee states that 'this pianoforte no. 25235 is hereby warranted to be in every respect a sound instrument'. Many thanks to professional piano movers Karl Durmelow and his colleague who did such a careful job moving it for us.

Our regular pianist Steve Tams will be putting it through its paces on his visits to the hospital. We hope our patients, staff and visitors at the Sir Robert Peel Community Hospital will enjoy playing and listening to Herbie for many years to come!







## Transforming the Trent Valley Artwork for the Halo Garden

Artists Anne Kinnaird and Rachel Ballard have been busy creating these beautiful large-scale sculptural beech leaves out of recycled pallet wood to be installed on the fencing at the back of the Halo Garden at Queen's Hospital Burton.. The designs have been inspired by photographs taken on a visit to Badgers Wood which is the area of National Forest woodland on the Outwoods site opposite the main hospital. They have worked with patients on the designs and hope to install the finished pieces in the spring. Thanks to our funders at Transforming the Trent Valley for supporting this project.



 Supported by the National Forest

## Art Group Pilot at Samuel Johnson and Sir Robert Peel

Anne and Rachel have also been delivering have also been delivering a pilot project in February and March on the wards at Tamworth and Lichfield offering different creative activities for patients at Andrew, Philip, Anna and Darwin Wards. They have been working in the bed bay areas and day rooms adapting their activities to suit the patients' needs on the day.



They have had some lovely feedback from the patients:

*"I didn't expect to get out of the bay... I've been stuck in the bay for four weeks ... great to get into a different space with different people and an activity to get involved in."*

*"It's a wonderful thing and it's nice to see you making people's experience in the hospital more bearable. It's really valuable."*

*"I didn't realise this kind of thing went on in the ward."*

*"Doing something different has broken up the day."*



# UHDB Medical Museum Proposed Gallery next phase receives 'green light' from National Heritage Lottery Fund



We have had some excellent news from the National Heritage Lottery Fund which has given us the go ahead to apply for funding for a permanent museum exhibition space within the library at Royal Derby Hospital.

It will be a multi-functional space, which will include a permanent exhibition of our most prized heritage objects, space for research seminars, creative workshops and events, a working area and bespoke storage.

It will be the only designated medical collection gallery in Derbyshire and Burton and the only gallery representing the Burton area.

Making it through this stage in the application process is very encouraging as it means the National Heritage Lottery Fund like our project in principle.



New Medical Museum display cases in the library, Royal Derby Hospital



This Royal Crown Derby owl is part of the collection. It represents Florence Nightingale's pet owl and was awarded to UHDB nurses for outstanding achievement and commitment.

*"This is exciting news. The UHDB Medical Museum has been really well received and we know there are new ways to share our heritage which a designated gallery, research, workshop and storage space will do."*  
- Beth Rawson, Curator







# Staff Wellbeing




We've been working hard to make our creative staff wellbeing programme more accessible and more inclusive in partnership with Trust networks. the Trust networks.

Doodle Club keeps on growing with new regular participants at the Queen's Hospital Burton and a need for extended longer workshops at Royal Derby Hospital. It is a really accessible session as participants can join in person, online and at any time they choose and the workshops are recorded. The feedback from the staff is consistently positive in particular for the skills they can learn and the friendly and supportive approach of the artist.

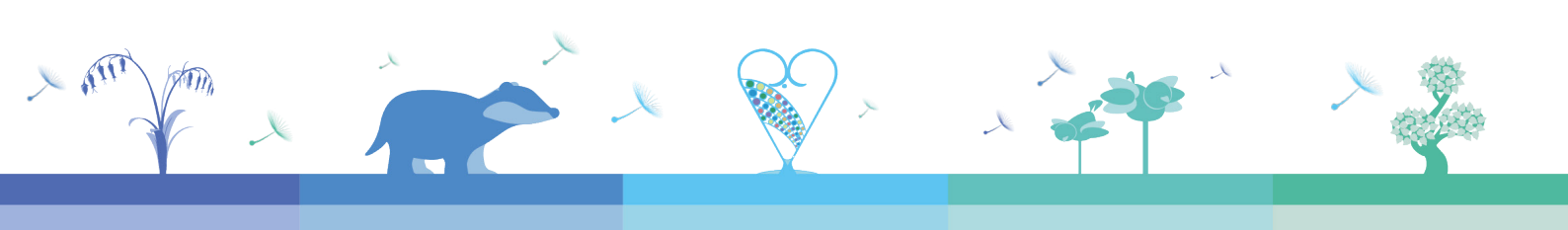


The UHDB Wellbeing Choir are working hard towards a number of public performances this year, including the prestigious Darly Park concert event. This is an amazing achievement as the event is the largest open-air concert in Europe.

**Made in the NHS** continues to be well attended and so far this year we have been fully booked for willow weaving workshops at Royal Derby Hospital and there have been growing numbers for our silk-painting workshops at Queen's Hospital Burton.



*"With a few sticks of willow and excellent guidance, you can make something beautiful in a short space of time."  
Staff member*

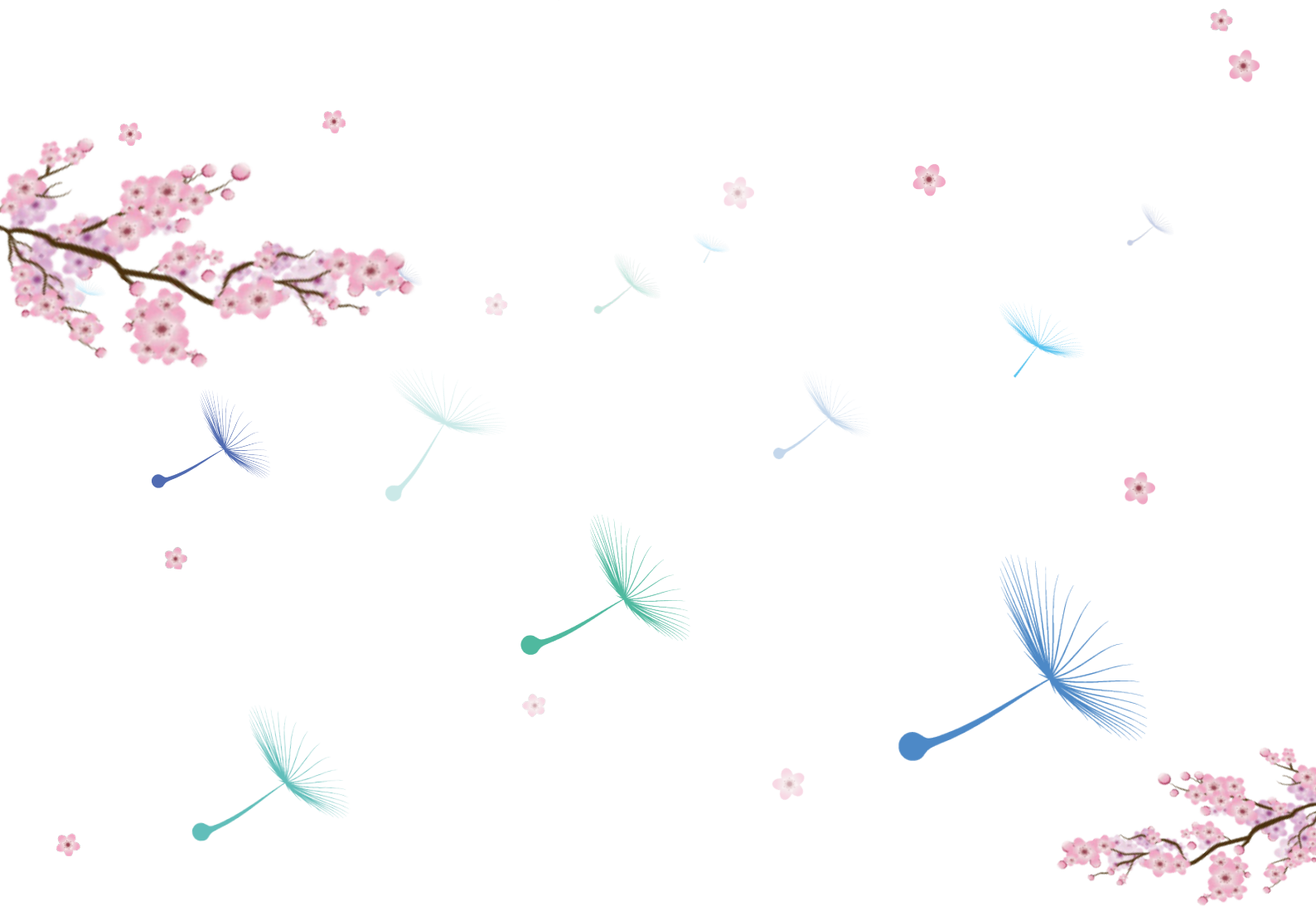


## Visual Literacy: Seeing the Skin Project

There have been some great developments on this project including an invitation to display both participants' work and drawings by Air Arts resident visual artist EJ Lance at the annual British Association of Dermatologists Conference at the Manchester Central Convention Centre in July. We have also had requests from other NHS Trusts and national organisations for training to be delivered for dermatology departments.

Derby Museums and Art Gallery have confirmed that aspects of the project with new work created will be the contemporary element of their flagship exhibition for 2025, Joseph Wright: A Life in Drawing which will be exhibited at May-September 2025. This will be a prestigious exhibition with national press coverage.

The museum are very keen for the project to be a central focus within the exhibition.







## Fresh

**Fresh** is full of information on our latest projects, exhibitions and news. You can pick up a copy for free in our hospitals.

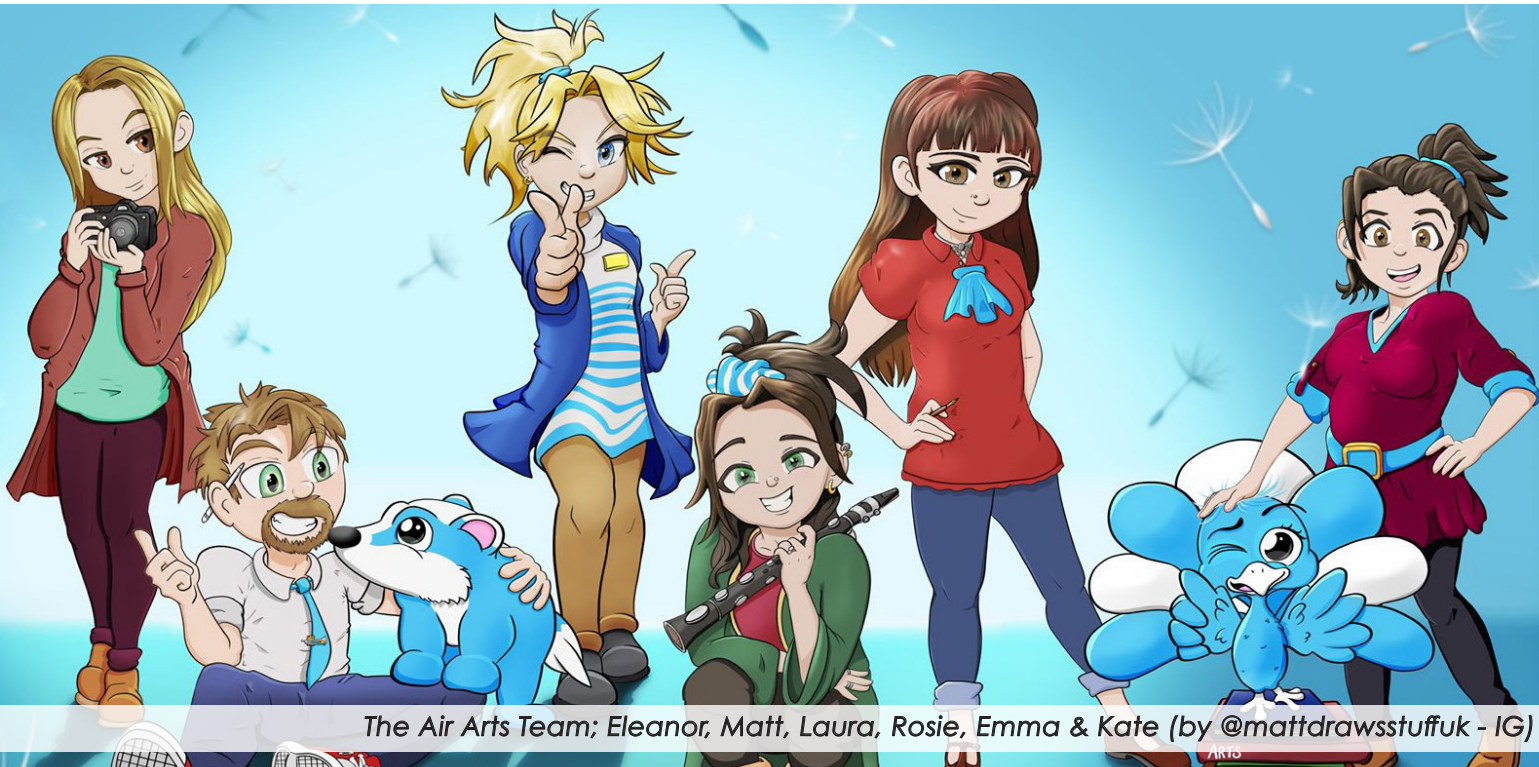
For more information or to view a digital version of Fresh, please visit our website [www.airarts.net](http://www.airarts.net)

*Air Arts delivers a wide-ranging programme of arts and creative activities for patients, staff and visitors at Derby and Burton Hospitals, to improve the hospital experience and support wellbeing.*



You can contact the team on email or social media:

[info@airarts.net](mailto:info@airarts.net) [www.airarts.net](http://www.airarts.net) @AirArtsUHDB



The Air Arts Team; Eleanor, Matt, Laura, Rosie, Emma & Kate (by @mattdrawsstuffuk - IG)