

MEDIA RELEASE/Interview and photo opportunity

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LPT takes people back through 140 years of healthcare history

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) is inviting people to travel back through 140 years of health care in Leicester at a special event on Monday 24 September.

A morning launch event at the Bradgate Mental Health Unit, on the Glenfield Hospital site, will unveil two history projects that share milestones from the city's mental health and learning disabilities healthcare heritage.

One showcases the 140-year history of The Towers Hospital, with a walk-through exhibition of stunning display boards and the other takes a pictorial journey through a

100-year era of learning disabilities services at Mansion House, on the Glenfield Hospital site.

In 2013 LPT hosted a special 'Looking Back, Moving Forwards' event bringing together memories and memorabilia to capture and preserve the Towers historical legacy following its closure and sale by the Trust.

The project, instigated by Trust secretary Frank Lusk, led by project manager Joan Hawkins, and with detailed research by retired NHS estates manager Dave



Woodcock, drew a huge response from former patients, staff and their relatives. Many donated photographs and shared their recollections which were captured on film, in print and through recorded interviews.

This year, which also marks the 70th anniversary of the NHS, the Towers materials have been brought to life again as a permanent historical record through the creation

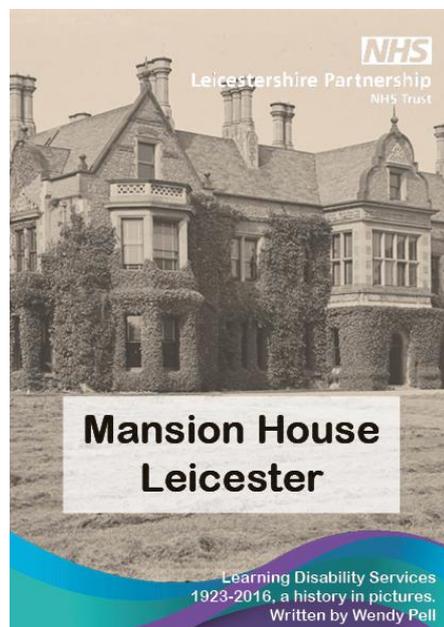
of stunning history boards now lining one of the corridors at the Bradgate unit. The work was crafted by artist Jemma Bagley from Loughborough-based independent community arts and media service Charnwood Arts.

The Mansion House history is the culmination of two years of work by Wendy Pell, assistant librarian in LPT's learning disabilities service.

She began the project in 2016 when the service moved out of the building, on the Glenfield site, ending a 100-year era with learning disability services based there. Wendy has collated a pictorial history bringing together photographs and historical milestones for the service.

- Farewell To The Past takes place in the Bradgate Unit's Involvement Centre from 10am to 1pm. (public parking is available nearby). Light refreshments will be provided. The programme includes an introduction to the projects and 20-minute guided tours of the corridor exhibition, led

by Joan Hawkins.



Copies of Wendy's Mansion House history will be available and Wendy will be on hand to talk about her two-year journey through the archives.

An electronic version of the booklet, narrated by Wendy, will be available after the launch at www.leicspart.nhs.uk

The public are invited to attend the drop-in event. There is no need to book and anyone planning to attend is asked to email

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NOTES TO EDITORS

1. **Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT)** provides community health, mental health and learning disabilities services for the one million people living in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. We have a budget in excess of £275 million and employ approximately 5,500 staff. For more information visit: www.leicspart.nhs.uk

2. **Raising Health** is our registered charity (number 1057361) which raises funds to support LPT's excellent care initiatives, equipment and innovations which go above and beyond core NHS provision, to enhance the experience of our patients, service users and staff. www.raisinghealth.org.uk

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