

MEDIA RELEASE/PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

2 July 2018

AMH.LD_16_18P

Bradgate Unit's 'time travel' party for NHS 70th birthday

Staff and patients at the Bradgate Mental Health Unit will celebrate the NHS story with a Big7Tea party on 5 July – 70 years to the day since Nye Bevan's healthcare vision became reality.



And they are inviting members of the public to join them!

A packed afternoon programme includes tea, birthday biscuits, celebration cake - and a unique arts exhibition celebrating the NHS history through a 'walk-round' timeline of historic NHS events.

The exhibition, currently on a county-wide roadshow of NHS sites, features more than 60 paintings, sketches and poems created by mental health service user artists who worked with participatory artist Scott Bridgwood.

The event, in the Recreation Room at the unit, on the Glenfield Hospital site, will mark Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust's (LPT) part in the evolution of one of the country's best-loved institutions, and shine a spotlight on the staff who have made it happen.

People are invited to drop in in between noon and 4pm to enjoy:

- Music from the LPT-supported Look-A-Lady-Ukulele group who will perform a song especially written to celebrate the NHS
- A service user's story

- A performance from comedian, musician, singer and performance poet John Hegley who is currently involved in collaborative work with patients at the Bradgate Unit
- The story behind an LPT history project and [film](#) telling the story of the former Towers Hospital, introduced by LPT's project lead Joan Hawkins
- Musical entertainment
- Displays

The artwork will move to Westcotes Health Centre and the Evington Centre, on the Leicester General Hospital site, before being mounted as a long-term display in Leicester Royal Infirmary at the end of the NHS at 70 celebrations.

Trust chair Cathy Ellis, who will open the event, said: "This is a chance to recognise the huge impact NHS mental health services have had on the lives of the people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

"We'll be joining thousands of people across the country paying tribute to the work of the NHS, exploring how it's developed, sharing our pride in being part of it and saying thank you to all our colleagues who are part of the NHS story."

* Thousands of NHS Big7Tea parties are being held by NHS teams and supporters across the country to raise a cuppa to the NHS and raise funds for NHS charities.

- **You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to join the party.**

-ends-

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

For further information contact: Sheila Ashton, communications manager for adult mental health and learning disabilities services Tel: 0116 295 0042, Email: sheila.ashton@leicspart.nhs.uk