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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Writing's on the Wall this year for Everybody's Reading**

Artwork inspired by the themes of zombies and Leicester's lost literary heroes will shine a spotlight on the rich artistic talents of people in the mental health community for this year's *Everybody's Reading* festival in Leicester.

'The Writing's on the Wall' is the 15th annual open exhibition of artworks submitted by mental health service users from Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. It's on display at Embrace Arts (formerly the Richard Attenborough Centre) as part of the annual city reading festival which this year runs from Saturday 27 September to Sunday 5 October.

This exhibition, running from Wednesday 1 October - Saturday 11 October is being delivered by Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) in partnership with: Brightsparks Arts in Mental Health group, Embrace Arts, the 'Dawn of the Unread' project and the *Everybody's Reading* festival.

It will open at a launch event on 1 October from 5.30pm.

The show features artistic works created at two 'tory cafes' at The Bradgate Mental Health Unit on the Glenfield Hospital site and at Embrace Arts, University of Leicester's multi-use inclusive arts centre on Lancaster Road.

At the Bradgate Unit, poet and performer, Andrew 'Mulletproof' Poet supported creative writing sessions with the Bradgate Writers group and artist and printmaker, Nick Birchall worked with artists at the ArtsCafe facilitating print workshops inspired by the writing.

At Embrace Arts poet and 'bibliotherapist' Alison Dunne facilitated writing workshops and artist and fanzine maker Steve Larder worked with the ArtSpace group, delivering illustration workshops inspired by this writing.

Lydia Towsey, LPT arts in mental health co-ordinator explained: "Dawn of the Unread is a project using zombies as a metaphor and tool to campaign for books, libraries and reading. Here, the participating artists and writers have been inspired by films, fantasy and

importantly, Leicester's lost literary heroes, and have generated their own unique responses to a range of authors, characters, places and stories."

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**NOTES TO EDITORS** Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) provides a range of health and wellbeing services mainly for people living Leicester, Leicestershire and. Trust serves a population of one million, has a budget in excess of £267 million and employs approximately 5,400 staff. For more information visit [www.leicspart.nhs.uk](http://www.leicspart.nhs.uk)  
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