



Community Project Case Study

The Felted Quilt

Where? Sycamore House Community Recovery Day Centre (NHS), York Quilt Museum and Gallery

When? February 2009 - April 2009

Who With? Mental Health Service Users and Project Artist, Kirsty Briggs Bateman

Total Number of Participants: 12 Talk, 8 Project



For the first outreach initiative of the 'Unfolding the Quilts' project, the Education Officer was keen to deconstruct the idea of 'quilt' and approach a community-based service with users in need of inspirational, confidence building opportunities.

Sycamore House is an NHS day centre providing services to Mental Health patients living in the community. Lead care worker Annette Smith wanted to work with the Museum to give her service users new opportunities that would encourage them to socialise with each other in a community setting, She also felt that some of them would benefit from the confidence lift that would come from working closely with staff and a professional textile artist.

Working under project artist Kirstie Briggs Bateman, a locally based felt artist who is well known for creating collaborative artworks, participants learnt how to construct their own felted fabric, how to use a sewing machine and how to create their own patchwork block quilt.

Each participant created and embellished a felted block reflecting their own personality which they then helped to construct as a 'quilt'. The finished piece was displayed in the Museum's Education Room before moving to Sycamore House for all its users, staff and visitors to enjoy.

