

AUGUST 2007

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about mental health and learning disability



'The Flowers Within' is unveiled

The new sculpture sits pride of place at Rampton's women's unit / page 3

Rampton unveil impressive sculpture

On 26 July, the Trust's Rampton Hospital held an unveiling ceremony and blessing to celebrate the opening of the new sculpture which has been proudly displayed at the front of the new women's unit.

The impressive sculpture titled 'The Flowers Within' has been created by a combination of Trust staff and female patients at the hospital with the close support of the arts charity Artists In Mind (AIM), over a number of months. The landmark is a dome shape, cast in bronze resin which is six feet in diameter and made up of lots of flowers, adopted by the women as symbols of womanhood.

The unveiling ceremony involved an introduction by John Wallace, Clinical Director for the women's service at Rampton and Allison Williams from the advocacy service at Rampton, followed by a speech from Artists In Mind and a music performance by some of the patients. The sculpture was then blessed by Father Bill Bergin and Reverend Juliet Stephenson and finished with a celebratory buffet for all those involved to enjoy the new sculpture in its new home and each patient received a flower.

Sohail Khan, a Trustee from AIM said: "The sculpture is testament to the

patient's creativity and self belief in the power to work with Halima and create such beautiful work which represents generation, transformation and regrowth. The work is also a model to good practise in partnership between the patients, staff, the artists, AIM and the Hospital, who have worked together to create what will hopefully be the first of many works and projects in such a setting."

Halima Cassell, the artist involved said: "It was a great opportunity and honour to work with such wonderful women and have the full support of the staff at the Trust. My thanks go to the funding bodies and AIM for allowing this project to take place, which was down to a lot of hard work and organisation from John Holt and without his determination artists like me would not have the opportunity to work in such establishments. I really hope projects like this, continue in the future."

Artist, Halima Cassell featured with the sculpture

