

**iINSPIRE
NORTH**

Mental
Health

Men's Talk

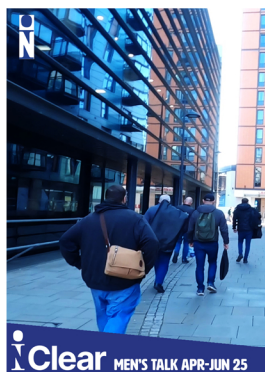


Annual report 25-26

iClear

Introduction

Established in 2018, Men's Talk is CLEAR's creative advocacy project for men, using applied theatre and film -making to support recovery.



April-Jun 25

"Men's Talk" is a co-produced, 35 minute -long performance, created with and performed by men with lived experience of mental ill health.

Between April and June, the men were on the road, performing to audiences across West Yorkshire, including the Joint Academic Psychiatric Seminar (JAPS), the Samaritans Regional Conference and the Baton of Hope.

MT Digital began working to produce a film with Birstall Woodturners and were commissioned by Clover Leaf to work alongside Kirklees Involvement Network, to create a series of films about cancer for adults with learning disabilities.



Birstall Woodturners

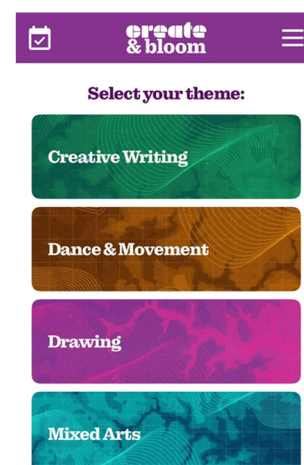


July-Sept 25

MT Digital were commissioned by South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Trust to produce content for the Create and Bloom app. Work began over the summer as the men began creating instructional videos detailing activities that they had found useful in their recovery.



Create and Bloom: Camera Skills



Oct-Dec 25



Clear Service Manager Krista Bagnell and Men's Talk project lead Stuart Hawkes attended the annual award ceremony of the Association of Male Health and Wellbeing in London, after being short-listed for Campaign of the Year.

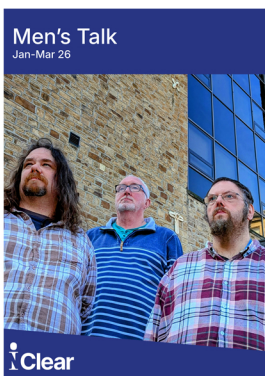
"A week of your life that you won't get back" took place at Proper Job Theatre in October, when ten men took part in a week of skills and confidence building workshops.

A number of themes emerged during the devising process – loneliness/isolation, childhood trauma and its' legacy, staying physically well when you are mentally unwell... and the changing roles of men in society.



Co-production came to the fore, when the men produced Talking Bollocks, a series of co-produced podcasts created by the men from MTDigital. Interviewed by their peers, the men discussed their own experiences with mental health and their journeys towards recovery. Conceived, created and published, by the men, Talking Bollocks launched at the Annual Showreel Event in March 26

MT Digital followed the celebrations at the annual Working Together Better Lantern Parade. The men were thrilled when four of the groups films were selected to be shown at "Stories in Motion" a film exhibition held at the University of Huddersfield.



Jan-Mar

Rehearsals are now underway for "Man Made Theatre, a new production from Men's Talk. The piece, which features a cast of eight, explores ideas of masculinity and how they impact mental health.

MT Digital were commissioned by Inspire North to produce a short film about the work of the Recovery Chef at Oakwood Hall. The film featured alongside a wide range of films produced by the group when they successfully hosted their Annual Showreel event at Connect Housing in Dewsbury

MT Digital successfully applied for a commission with the University of Huddersfield Cultures of Film project and will be the film-makers documenting Culture Labs, creative consultations, in Dewsbury.