

Artful Dodgers Studios participants paint mural wall at Austin Hospital

In 2008, Peter Burchill from the Austin Hospital Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) approached the Artful Dodgers Studios, offering to fund a graffiti mural on the wall in the yard at CAHMS. They had admired the work of the Artful Dodgers Studios on the Tunnel project and felt there was a natural synergy between Gateway and CAHMS.

Zoe Horsfall a Cultural and Community Development artist from Artful Dodgers Studios organised a group of 6 participants to plan, design and paint the mural. After 3 planning meetings a trip to the paint shop, a lot of sketches and stencil making, they headed down to the hospital to spend 2 days painting the 18 meter wall.

The group decided the theme for the wall would be 'outer space' so that there would be some continuity in the work, following from that, the background would be the night sky filled with stars and planets and the colours used would be blues and whites, with all the individual works using blue, green, pink and yellow.

All the artists, staff and young people from CAHMS are extremely pleased with the outcome they now have a bright and complex artwork in their yard instead of a concrete wall. The artists also have photos of work that they plan to use to get further legal wall projects and to add to their art folios.

