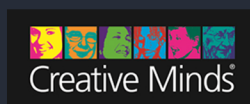
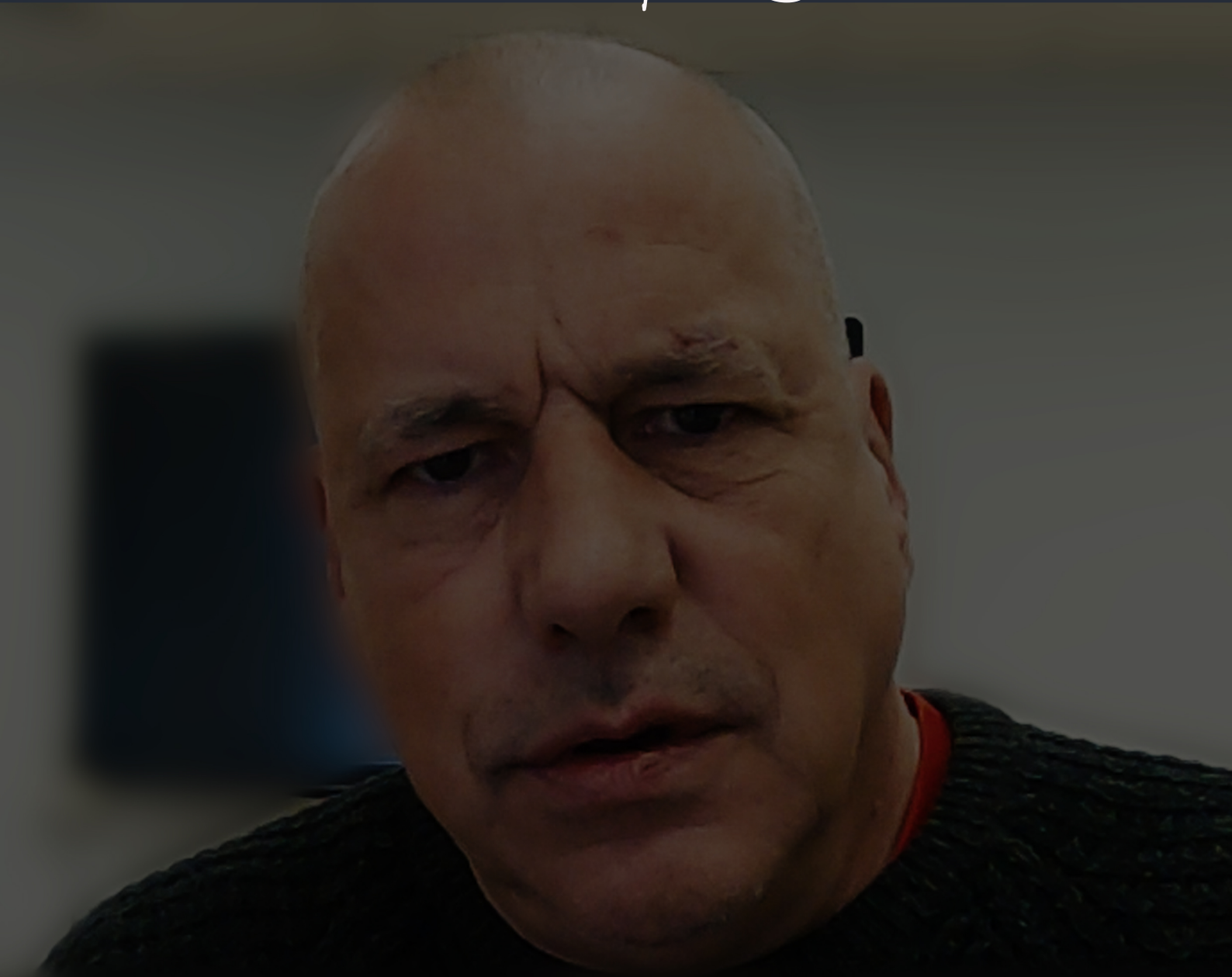


Men's Talk

A theatre performance by men with
lived experience of mental health issues

On Tour Spring '23



mens.talk@commlinks.co.uk

Men's Talk

Created with and performed by men with lived experience of mental health issues "Men's Talk" is a 35 minute performance exploring their experiences and their journey towards recovery.



Men's Talk

A theatre performance by men with lived experience of mental health issues

Men's Talk is a 40 minute long co-produced performance which explores men's experiences of mental health and their journey to recovery.

"Fantastic performance!"

"Thought provoking, emotional..real"

"An exceptional piece of theatre"

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For further information contact Stuart Hawkes 07391 868752

Eleven men

Began the process – taking part in weekly drama workshops – developing skills, getting to know each other and having fun. They all joined stage two, where we began to explore people's experiences of mental ill health and the mental health system – sharing stories and agreeing content.



Seven Men

Completed the process – and over Christmas began learning lines. Rehearsals began in January and although two of the men had been part of the original cast, five men would be performing for the first time.

Their commitment could not be faulted with every one of them achieving a 100% attendance rate in the lead up to the shows' premiere in front of a sell out audience, made up of professionals, clients and stakeholders.



Thirteen performances.

Following its successful launch, “Men’s Talk” has been seen by over 500 people at a range of venues across West Yorkshire including the Lawrence Batley Theatre, Leeds Playhouse and Fox’s Biscuits. Audiences have included health workers, senior managers, students service users, students, members of the workforce and delegates at the Creative Minds 10th Anniversary Conference..

“Amazing! So hard hitting but such an important message. Well done!”

“Thank you. Men’s mental health is often overlooked and it’s amazing to see it portrayed in such a powerful way.”

“The evaluations show that it was a profoundly moving, engaging and meaningful event, rich with learning for all.”

“Being involved in Men’s Talk: I feel that I have accomplished something. When people ask me what I’m doing, I’ve got something to talk about, I tell people I’m part of this mental health group, that is forward facing - it gives me social worth, it gives me a sense of value and achievement.”

07
CAST MEMBERS

Created and performed by men with lived experience of mental health issues

Venues included:
The LBT
Leeds Playhouse
Fox's Biscuits

13
PERFORMANCES

503
AUDIENCE MEMBERS

Students
Mental Health Professionals
Workforce
Service Users
Men

Rehearsal Support
Tech Crew

429
VOLUNTEER HOURS

31
INFORMATION REQUESTS

from people and organisation who are interested in hosting future performances

Men's Talk

Spring Tour 23

“Very inspirational – the lived experience you talk about will have a real impact on any audience”.

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“Men’s Talk is an great example of the benefits of peer support, involvement within communities and arts and culture, as a fundamental part of our mental health care landscape. Everyone needs to see this performance”.

West Yorkshire ICB

“We are extremely proud of the Men’s Talk group and all the work that has gone into producing and performing the piece.

“This project showcases the life-changing impact that having an outlet for open and supportive conversations can have, and the performance uniquely captures the men’s lived experiences in a creative and courageous way.”

Ruth Kettle, CEO Inspire North – parent organisation of Community Links

What next?

With over 30 enquiries about possible performances, Men's Talk plan to be out on the road again in the autumn.

The play, which is suitable for conferences, training or community events, requires a performance area of 5m x 3m and an audience.

Keep up to date with Men's Talk via their Facebook page: @ CLEAR Men's Talk where you can find clips from the show, audience testimony and our tour schedule.



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100082411594145>



If you would like to book a performance or you would like to know more about the project, contact:

e: stuart.hawkes@commlinks.co.uk t: 07391 868752

