



**Working to benefit all people  
affected by genetic disorders**

**Unit 4D Leroy House  
436 Essex Road  
London  
N1 3QP**

**Tel: 020 7704 3141**



The North West Genetics  
Knowledge Park  
The Nowgen Centre  
29 Grafton Street  
Manchester, M13 9WU  
Tel: 0161 2765956

## **News release**

**For Immediate Release: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2005**

### **Doing it in Denim! Art exhibition launched at the Nowgen Centre in Manchester on Jeans for Genes Day**

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October is Jeans for Genes Day and The Nowgen Centre in Manchester will be hosting the launch of an exciting new *DENIM* art piece, as part of an exhibition showing the results of the Genetic Interest Group's Artist-in-Residence.

The exhibition will include the Collaborative *DENIM* Chromosome Piece, work produced by patient support groups, school children and the artist. Artist Sayward Morley commented "I have produced an exhibition that showcases my work from the past 12 months. My aim was to reflect the work I have undertaken across the North West and exhibit artwork developed using my own genetic information.

The exhibition will also launch a collective *DENIM* piece. I coordinated this piece in order to show a representation of the people involved in genetics. It has been added to by staff from the Clinical Genetics Department and the laboratories, as well as various support group representatives. "

Sayward has spent a year as Artist-in-Residence for the Genetic Interest Group (GIG), a national alliance of patient groups which support children, families and individuals affected by genetic disorders. Alastair Kent, Director of GIG noted "We are delighted to have this opportunity to raise awareness of the work of Sayward, as well as highlighting Jeans for Genes Day in which GIG is participating this year. 1 in every 33 babies are born each year with a genetic disorder and by working with children, families and the wider public, as Sayward has done, GIG is able to improve awareness of genetic disorders and help to enhance patients quality of life"

Based at Nowgen, the North West Genetics Knowledge Park, Sayward has delivered a range of art workshops looking at the ethical and social issues surrounding human genetics as well as reflecting on the subject within her own art practice.



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The event is being held on 7<sup>th</sup> October to coincide with Jeans for Genes Day and will feature art work created from DENIM chromosomes that has been added to by support group members and genetics staff from St Mary's Hospital, Manchester, where Sayward is based.

Interviews are available upon request.

Ends

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### For more information and interviews please contact

Alastair Kent, Genetic Interest Group

07740 931 646

Sayward Morley, GIG Artist in Residence

0161 276 5956

[Sayward.Morley@CMMC.nhs.uk](mailto:Sayward.Morley@CMMC.nhs.uk)

Mr Tickle who has decorated a denim chromosome for the Event with his child aged 8 who has a rare chromosomal Disorder.

01204 888870

07764143843

[andrew.2.tickle@bt.com](mailto:andrew.2.tickle@bt.com)

Margaret Costello, Gorlin Syndrome Group  
11 Blackberry Way  
Penworth  
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Lancashire PR1 9LQ

01772 517624 (after office hours)

[gorlin.group@btconnect.com](mailto:gorlin.group@btconnect.com)

[Margaret's husband founded the Gorlin Support Group and Margaret is taking part in Jeans for Genes Day through the Genetic Interest Group's project. She is available for interview]

Sally Webster, Gorlin Syndrome Group  
99 Gatley Road,  
Cheadle,  
SK8 1LX

0161 428 8645

[Sally is also involved in the Jeans for Genes campaign and is available for interview]

TeacherPupils from Prestwich Arts College who have worked with Sayward to produce a mural for The National Genetics Reference Laboratory.

Contact Sayward Morley for interviews

### Notes to Editors

- The Genetic Interest Group (GIG) [charity number 803424], a national alliance of organisations with a membership of over 130 charities that support children, families and individuals affected by genetic disorders. [www.gig.org.uk](http://www.gig.org.uk)



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- Nowgen has a particular commitment to public engagement. They aim to improve the dialogue between members of the public, researchers and health professionals on issues relating to human genetics. [www.nowgen.org.uk](http://www.nowgen.org.uk)
- Sayward is a versatile artist with an interest in arts in health, community and education work. She graduated with BA (Hons) in Fine Art at Manchester Metropolitan University in 2003.
- Jeans for Genes is celebrating its 10th birthday on 7th October 2005. [www.jeansforgenes.com](http://www.jeansforgenes.com)
- The Genetic Interest Group is participating in the Jeans for Genes Appeal this year as a guest charity benefiting from the funds raised.
- Jeans for Genes birthday wish is to raise over £4 million on one day - Jeans for Genes day, Friday 7th October 2005.