

# CRIPPING BREATH.

Towards a New Cultural Politics of Respiration.



University of  
Sheffield

## Newsletter - January 2026



Welcome to our very first Crippling Breath newsletter!

You'll see from this first edition that the Crippling Breath team has been incredibly busy across each of our work packages. We are at a very exciting stage of the project: data collection and curation is either underway, or imminent! I want to say a big thank you to the team for all their hard work. We will keep you up to date with the project as we go, but please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or want to learn more!

Kirsty (k.liddiard@sheffield.ac.uk)

<https://sheffield.ac.uk/cripping-breath>

## What next...

- Collaborators in the Arts Stream will meet for regular workshops, both online and in person, to develop new art and performance.
- Fieldwork for the Ethnographic Stream will start in South Yorkshire hospitals.
- In the Narrative Stream we will recruit participants for photographic storytelling workshops and analyse interview data.
- Researchers in the Archival Stream will take part in online collaborative workshops.
- We will present at the Disability Studies Conference at University of Leeds (April 2026).

## The project so far...

### ARTS STREAM

We have welcomed 3 Theatre Collaborators and 3 Artist Collaborators, all with lived experience of ventilation, into creative processes led by Artists-in-Residence Jamie Hale and Louise Atkinson respectively.

### ETHNOGRAPHIC STREAM

We have designed the research for the Ethnographic Stream, working closely with Sheffield Teaching Hospitals and our new clinical advisory group to explore beginning ventilation as a health intervention with patients and clinicians.

### NARRATIVE STREAM

We set up the community researcher cooperative to co-produce research on people's experiences of breathing and ventilation (Everyday Stories of Breathing and Ventilation). As a cooperative, we planned the research, and recruited participants for online interviews.

### ARCHIVAL STREAM

We have developed our plans for the Archival Stream (Crippling the Archive), in which three researchers with lived experiences of ventilation will virtually explore different archives and produce a creative response.



The Art House