

Artist Ayo's page turning residency

By Pat Scott

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THE archives of The Huntly Express are set to make the headlines in Nigeria.

Ayo Akinwádé, a visual artist and writer has just completed his residency with Deveron Projects - Archiving the Future.

Ayo was interested in the future of archives in relation to the Digital Age - and what the future will be like in terms of archives.

During his residency he got completely absorbed in The Huntly Express archive, now in the custodianship of Huntly Development Trust after being gifted to them by the owners of the newspaper when the local office closed.

In this residency, Ayo spent many hours amongst the archives, considering ways in which they could be activated for local communities.

He plans to produce three small publications based around the archive - one



Ayo Akinwádé's residency looked at The Huntly Express.

featuring poems which have been published, another featuring selected stories and letters and a third with features from the columns.

He merged past and future archiving by photographing news stories, photos and adverts from across the years and posting them on the Huntly Histories Facebook page which created a great

deal of interest from its members.

During his research, Ayo became interested in the different font styles used since the start in 1863 and noted the change in language styles which was more the more sophisticated.

The archive, some of it in poor condition, is located in the Brander.