

CENTREPIECES

Mental Health Arts Project

Registered Charity 1160300

CENTREPIECES ARTISTS UPDATE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017

LODGE WORKSHOP TIMETABLE (details below timetable)

MONDAY:	SCULPTURE	10:00 – 1:00pm	(Christie Cassisa)
TUESDAY:	XMAS DECS (pasta and wreaths)	10:00 – 12:30pm	(Karen Larkin)
WEDNESDAY:	PHOTOGRAPHY MEETING	10:00 – 12:00pm	(Terry Longley)
THURSDAY:	MASKS/PROJECTS	10:00 – 1:00pm	(Stuart Smith/Karen)
FRIDAY:	OPEN STUDIO	10:00 – 1:00pm	(Artist led)
SATURDAY:	PHOTOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP	Fortnightly	(Terry Longley)
	VARIOUS WORKSHOPS	10:00 – 1pm	(Various tutors)

ART WORKSHOPS

SCULPTURE In November and December sculpture will be continuing although Christie will be tied up with various Hall Place Garden art projects, some of which will be open to participation by other Centrepieces artists. There are no formal sculpture workshops planned for this period although experienced artists will often be around to offer support while people continue with their own work and projects.

PASTA WORKSHOPS Karen will be offering workshops on Tuesdays based around creating artefacts from pasta and other materials for Xmas and the Garden which Centrepieces will be installing at Hall Place, and for the Xmas Tree competition at Christchurch Bexleyheath in December. These cost £10 for the first 3 sessions on 14th, 21st and 28th November, please book a place.

XMAS GARDEN PROJECT WORKSHOPS Thursday 7th and 14th Dec will be set aside to create the installations for this project, part of the 'TWELVE' commissioned by Hall Place.

HALL PLACE INSPIRED WORKSHOPS Stuart Smith will be holding open workshops on Thursdays to create masks and other decorative items as part of the two Hall Place

workshops which he is currently running, having taken over from Denise Tarrant's 'Celebrating the Past Inspiring the Present' and running his own 'Echoes of Hall Place' photography based project. These are from 10 – 1pm on the 2nd, 9th, 16th and 30th November and are free to participants as they have been externally funded

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP This continues to meet on Weds 10 -12am at Hall Place Visitors Centre to discuss photography and plan field trips (£1 donation) on alternative Saturdays. Contact Terry Longley, Dawn Tomkins or the Lodge if interested.

SATURDAY OPENING AT LODGE Saturdays have been busy at the Lodge in the first part of the Autumn Programme with workshops on breezeblock sculpture, tie dyeing, quilling and making 'Word Webs' for the Hall Place Gardens commission.

Opening is normally from 10 – 1pm subject to keyholder/ workshop tutor availability.

11th Nov : Unveiling of the 'Never forget' remembrance sculpture created by Christie in Hall Place Gardens at 11am. (The Lodge is otherwise closed). All welcome to attend.

18th Nov: Lodge open 10 – 1pm.

25th Nov: Opening of this years Centrepieces Stables exhibition 12 – 3pm with guest speakers and food provided. Help will be needed for preparations and on the day.

2nd Dec: 10:00 – 12:00pm Xmas Card/ Garden project workshop

9th Dec: 10:00 – 12:00pm Xmas Card/ Garden project workshop

16th Dec: Opening of the Hall Place Xmas Garden project (part of the 'TWELVE')

Lodge closed for Xmas from 23rd Dec, current plan is to reopen on Monday 8th Jan 2018, notification will be given if the Lodge is open again before this.

Tutored sessions using art materials usually cost £3, externally funded workshops are free.

See the website www.centrepieces.org for workshop updates or artists@centrepieces.org email group.

NEW COMMISSION FOR ARTWORK IN HALL PLACE GARDENS (THE 'TWELVE') This exciting new development follows recent partnership meetings with Hall Place in which the Council have agreed to fund some temporary artwork to be created by Centrepieces artists in the gardens at Hall Place. After much preparation by our artists 12 proposals have now been agreed encompassing a wide range of ideas and media. Three projects have already been completed and many offer opportunities for C/P artists as well as the public to be involved. Details are continually being circulated on the artists@centrepieces.org email group and uploaded to the website www.centrepieces.org and social media, as the projects evolve. They are taking place between Oct 2017 – March 2018. The first was 'Word Webs', a constructions of over 40 spiders webs and text using different materials led by Kim Campbell, and then 'Drawing the Line' in which coloured leaves were collected and embedded into a hedge next to the Historic house. Both of these half term projects were highly successful with public participation as well as

Centrepieces artists. The third, to be unveiled on Amnesty Day Sat Nov 11th is 'Never Forget', sculptured figures made of clay and stones referring to modern day war and violence as well as WW1 and 2. The lead artist is Christie who has been assisted by a team of other Centrepieces artists. Two more projects are due to be installed before Xmas, 'Be Different' in which a tree in the grounds will be covered in coloured tissue paper, and the 'Xmas Garden' which will be an installation lit by an LED display in the enclosed garden next to the Lodge. As stated above the workshops between now and Xmas on Thursdays run by Stuart Smith are being devoted to another 2 of the 'Twelve' projects, 'Celebrating the Past Inspiring the Present' and 'Echoes of Hall Place'. Tuesday workshops will involve making items for the Xmas Garden and led by Karen Larkin. All are welcome to take part in these sessions, some of which are free.

STABLES GALLERY EXHIBITION NOV 2017 The official opening for this exhibition takes place in the gallery from 12 – 3pm on Sat 25th November. All are welcome, there will be food provided and guest speakers etc. Preparations for the exhibition are well underway, with much help required for the work beforehand and installation on Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th November. This is always a great exhibition where all Centrepieces artists can exhibit at least one pieces of their work, and of course many artists showing a lot more. Help will also be needed to take the exhibition down on Friday 22nd December.

SOLO/ SMALL GROUP EXHIBITIONS We will shortly be starting to plan exhibitions for 2018 so please let us know if you wish to participate. Several suitable galleries and spaces have been identified, and some artists have already expressed an interest.

QUEENS GALLERY Centrepieces accepted an invite for its artists to attend a free session on 6th November at this prestigious gallery at Buckingham Palace based on their current exhibition of the Italian artist Canaletto. Around 12 people went and the tour and art workshop both went very well. The Queens Gallery have said that there will be more opportunities in future if we are interested.

CARD PRODUCTION Kirsty Pentecost has offered to help with printing images on different types of products (mugs, T shirts, prints etc) to sell for fundraising purposes. An artist/volunteer is needed to oversee this important aspect of Centrepieces, please contact the Lodge if you are able to take on this important role.

XMAS CARDS Dawn Tomkins, Neil Butler and Karen Larkin have been starting to produce this years Xmas cards based on the designs submitted by C/P artists and which should be available for sale soon.

WEBSITE The new website is now up and running and looking good: www.centrepieces.org We are continually updating the website with news, workshops, latest artwork etc. Contact the Lodge if there is anything you would like to be uploaded.

FUNDRAISING The fundraising team have put in a bid for £5,000 to the CoOp Community fund for an art project proposal by Denise Tarrant on the theme of growth and change. We should hear in November if whether we have been successful.

We have also put in a bid in partnership with NWKent who run a gardening scheme with volunteers at Hall Place for £2,000 for a plinth for rotating public art in the grounds, with C/P creating the first artwork. This is an application to a competitive fund for community projects provided by Aviva Insurance Company, with a public voting system in which those most popular win the grants. So in order to be successful it is extremely important that everyone who is on email creates an account from the link below and casts their 10 votes for the Centrepieces Plinth project. **CAN YOU PLEASE HELP WITH THIS, THANKS.**

<https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/voting/project/view/17-2903%20>

BEXLEY ARTS AND CULTURE BID The launch for the Bexley bid to become the London Borough of Art and Culture in 2019/20 took place at Hall Place on Sunday 1st October, with Centrepieces playing a key part. Christie led a workshop at the Lodge painting stones with the names and ranks of local soldiers who fell in WW1 and 2, in which the public participated alongside C/P artists and which proved very popular. Bexley's bid will be submitted in December 2017.

PICTURE LOAN SCHEME We already have 2 agreements with Oxleas NHS Trust in which they display Centrepieces artists work, currently in Woodlands reception and the ECT suite at QMH. Two Centrepieces Trustees, Guy and Britta, have been negotiating with a big NHS Trust in Kent (KMPT) for another agreement to display our artists work, which will also be for sale.