

## What is Centrepieces?

Centrepieces was founded in 1999 by a group of artists all of whom experienced mental health problems and were living in Bexley and surrounding areas. Originally set up with a £5K Millennium Award from the National Lottery, Centrepieces was for many years based at the Crayford Centre, moving in June 2014 to new premises at the Lodge Hall Place, which has been financially supported by Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust.

Centrepieces currently comprises of about 75 artists.

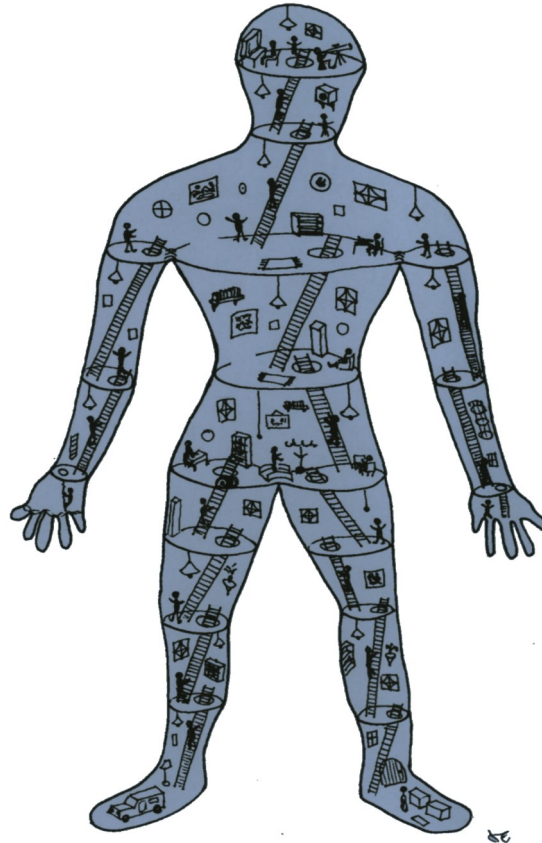
Centrepieces exists to promote mental health recovery through the arts, affording opportunities for people to participate in art activities and to exhibit and sell their work. It also tries to promote a better understanding of mental health to the wider public.

All registered artists can participate in groups and workshops at the Lodge, as well as using the space to develop their own work individually. Centrepieces also applies for ad hoc funding for art projects and commissions such as public art in the local community, with artists playing a key part in leading these.

Centrepieces is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), Registration No 1160300.



'The Worrier' Centrepieces, 2000, Public Sculpture



'Inner Man' John Exell, 2003, Ink on paper



The Lodge Hall Place  
Bourne Road  
Bexley Kent  
DA5 1PQ

Phone: 01322 554589 or 07476339718

Email: [info@centrepieces.org](mailto:info@centrepieces.org)

Website: [www.centrepieces.org](http://www.centrepieces.org)

Blog: <http://centrepiecesblog.blogspot.com>



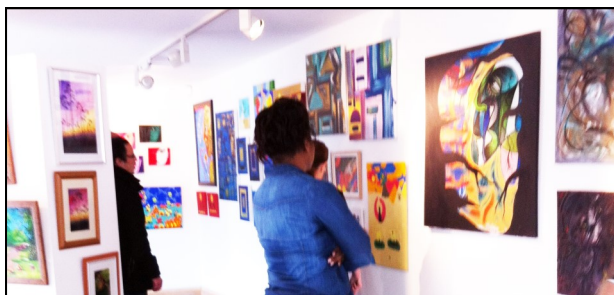
Website: [www.centrepieces.org](http://www.centrepieces.org)

## What Centrepieces Offers

Centrepieces is open to anyone who has experienced mental ill health or has a strong empathy with this and wishes to practice art, or volunteer in the project.

Benefits of joining Centrepieces are numerous and include:

- ◆ Improving artistic skills and ability.
- ◆ Gaining confidence and self esteem.
- ◆ Opportunities to exhibit and sell your artwork.
- ◆ Participate in helping others to develop as artists.
- ◆ Other volunteering roles within the project such as administration , finance and fund-raising, setting up exhibitions and events/ festivals, helping to run the Lodge and managing projects.



Centrepieces Exhibition, Hall Place, 2013

*"Centrepieces has given me a safe place to go to interact with other people and give me more confidence."*

*Mimi Darling, artist*

## Our Projects

Previous examples of Centrepieces Projects include:

- ◆ Terrazo Nest Sculpture at Hall Place
- ◆ The Emotional Spiral at Pinewood House Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust
- ◆ The Worrier Sculpture in Crayford Riverside gardens
- ◆ Orienteering posts at St Peter Chanel Primary School
- ◆ Mosaics at Upland Primary School
- ◆ Kinetic Sculpture with children at Vietnamese Community Centre
- ◆ 'It's a Breeze' Totem Pole breezeblock project with various community groups

Current ongoing workshops at the Lodge Hall Place:

- ◆ William Kendal Sculpture Project
- ◆ Photography Club
- ◆ Ceramics workshops
- ◆ Taster sessions
- ◆ Friday Open session



Vietnamese Totem Pole, Hall Place, 2001

Centrepieces holds regular Art Exhibitions and Art Auctions in venues such as local libraries, as well as an Annual Art Exhibition in the Stables Gallery at Hall Place.

It also participates in local Festivals such as Erith Riverside and Lark in the Park in Sidcup.

Regular visits are organised to places of artistic interest.

Future developments include:

- \*Skills and technique based classes at the Lodge in 2016
- \*Expanding venues where Centrepieces sells artwork including market stalls and new gallery spaces.

## Membership

You can join Centrepieces as an artist or someone who wishes to practice art. This is primarily an opportunity for people who have experienced mental ill health, but is also open to those who have an interest in or empathy towards mental health and art.

You can join as a volunteer, either as someone who has experienced mental health issues or wishes to support the project, or gain experience in this area. Volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds and experience in mental health and art, or have other skills to offer.

You may now apply to become a Member with voting and other rights as specified in Centrepieces' Constitution. In recognition of your interest and contributions it is even possible to apply to become a Trustee, if you feel that you have sufficient experience and a relevant background to help run Centrepieces as a Charity.

To apply

Contact the Lodge at the following address:

The Lodge Hall Place  
Bourne Road  
Bexley Kent  
DA5 1PQ

The Lodge is normally open Mon to Sat 10:00 – 4:00pm  
Workshops take place at various times throughout the week, see timetable available at the Lodge.

Phone: 01322 554589 or 07476339718



Nest Sculpture, Hall Place, 2013