

# CENTREPIECES

Mental Health Arts Project

Registered Charity 1160300

## CENTREPIECES ARTISTS UPDATE

### OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2019

#### WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2019

Centrepieces is celebrating this year's Mental Health Day with an exhibition of Sunflowers at the Pop Up Studios depicting 'Hope', in response to this year's theme of suicide prevention. The exhibition consists of contributions from individual artists and the product of workshops held at the Pop Up Space with the Young Adult Project group. This exhibition is supported by the Jamie Shand Trust and we will also be fundraising for 'Young Minds'. The launch is on WMH Day on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October and will remain up until 6<sup>th</sup> November.

#### ART AUCTION 2019

This year's Centrepieces Art Auction will take place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 5pm at the Pop Up Space in Bexleyheath. Work will be put up for show and previewing from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November and taken down on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December, to allow for any post auction sales. If you have additional new artwork that you'd like to be considered for the Auction then please submit this to the Lodge as soon as possible.

#### LODGE WORKSHOP TIMETABLE (details below timetable)

MONDAY:	INDOOR SCULPTURE (Mixed Media)	10:30 – 1:00pm (Lucy Thomas)
TUESDAY:	MAKING A WOODEN BIRD HOUSE (Oct)	10:30 – 1:00pm (Tony Thomas)
	EXCITING WAYS WITH PRINTMAKING 2 (Nov)	10:00 – 1:00pm (Sue Wieck)
WED:	PHOTOGRAPHY	10:00 – 12:00pm (Terry Longley)
THURSDAY:	TEXTILES/ HALLOWEEN / FESTIVE	10:30 – 1:00pm (Lucy Thomas)
FRIDAY:	OPEN STUDIO	10:00 – 1:00pm (All artists)
	OUTDOOR SCULPTURE	10:30-1:00pm (Christie Cassisa)
SATURDAY:	VARIOUS WORKSHOPS (AT THE POP UP)	10:30 – 1:00pm (Various Tutors)

## **ART WORKSHOPS AT THE LODGE (UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED)**

**SCULPTURE** Lucy continues to run weekly Mixed Media sculptural workshops on Monday mornings, working with various media including clay and papier mache, which cost £3 and do not need to be booked in advance.

Christie continues to run Friday morning Outdoor Sculpture Sessions covering all aspects of stone and wood carving according to the interest and development needs of individual artists. These are also on a drop in basis costing £3 per session.

**EXCITING WAYS WITH PRINTMAKING** Sue Wieck is offering two short courses comprising 3 sessions each on a wide range of experimental approaches to printmaking on Tuesday mornings, the second takes place on 29/10, 5/11 and 12/11/19. These classes need to be booked and paid for in advance, cost £10 per course.

**ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISM** Peter Kent has just completed 3 Tuesday sessions based around the work of three of the abstract expressionism artists, Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko and Frank Bowling. These were on 24/9, 1/10 and 8/10/19.

**USE OF WOOD TOOLS TO MAKE A BIRD HOUSE** Lucy Thomas's dad Tony will be running two sessions on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> October, introducing basic use of wood tools in creative construction. Cost £8 for the two classes, to be paid in advance.

### **WILLIAM KENDAL FUNDED WORKSHOP:**

**CREATIVE PORTRAIT TECHNIQUES** Following on from Merissa's successful Life Drawing course she will be running a 3 week course on learning and practising how to draw and paint a self portrait or someone else, using different media with a photo as reference. Cost £10 (refundable if attending all three as it is a WK funded course). Dates and venue to be confirmed, this course is currently being rescheduled.

**MIXED MEDIA WORKSHOPS** Lucy Thomas continues to run these workshops on Thursdays, currently Weaving and Textiles. Lucy will soon be moving on to Halloween themed decorations with Dream Catchers and then end of year Festive Creations. Cost is £3 per session, no need to book in advance.

**PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP** This group meets on Wednesdays between 10 –12pm either at the Pop Up Space Bexleyheath, the Cafeteria at Sainsburys in Crayford, or at the Lodge or Hall Place Visitors Centre, to discuss photography and plan field trips (£1 donation). Contact Terry Longley, Dawn Tomkins, Neil Butler or Alex Spendley if interested, for details of venue.

### **SATURDAY OPENING AT THE POP UP SPACE**

Saturday Opening has now moved for a trial period to the new space in Bexleyheath, with a variety of workshops. Normal opening time is from 10 – 1pm subject to keyholder availability.

See the website [www.centrepieces.org](http://www.centrepieces.org) for workshop updates or [artists@centrepieces.org](mailto:artists@centrepieces.org) email group, or telephone the Lodge on 01322 554 589

## UPDATE ON THE POP UP STUDIOS IN BEXLEYHEATH

The 20 Studio Spaces have now all been taken up. The wall space for Themed Exhibitions which started with the Body Image exhibition is currently being used for the WMH Day 'Sunflower Exhibition', to be followed by the Art Auction and other new Themed Exhibitions already being planned for next year. There is a rotating display of artwork featuring Studio Artists both on the rear wall and in the shop window which will also be used for 'Remembrance Day' and 'Winter Wonderland' displays. Artwork has been selling well and the space has been a great stimulus for this, and for attracting interest from the public and new artists and volunteers. There will be an 'Art and Craft Sale' on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November (see Karen for details or if you are interested in a stall for selling).

ERITH IN REVIEW PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION This exhibition at the Erith Exchange includes work by the Centrepieces Photography group and C/P artist Stuart Smith, and is on until Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October.

BEXLEYHEATH RAILWAY STATION It has been agreed that the waiting room can be used for Centrepieces art exhibitions on a rotating basis. Mark Harrison exhibited there initially and now Christie Cassisa. Contact Centrepieces if interested as the work needs to be of a particular size and depth in order to fit into their standard poster type locked frames. We are also looking for a volunteer to support these rotating exhibitions.

CREEK CREATIVE STUDIOS IN FAVERSHAM Christie Cassisa will be holding our next exhibition in this lovely café art gallery from 14<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October. The Private View will be on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October, all welcome to attend. Let us know if you would like to be considered for a future solo exhibition either at this venue or elsewhere.

LIBRARY EXHIBITIONS We have held exhibitions at both Erith and Sidcup Libraries, and will repeat these before the end of the year if time and resources allow.

SLADE GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE We continue to rotate artists work being shown here, and following a recent meeting will be making some proposals for portrait drawing of their Centre Users by Centrepieces artists.

MERCHANDISE The new Centrepieces T shirts with a colourful design by Kim Campbell have been selling well from the Lodge at £10 each, available in L, XL and XXL sizes. These are primarily for workshop tutors and public events, but are also generally available on sale to Centrepieces artists and the public. Karen and the photography group are producing a Calendar for 2020. Centrepieces Trustee Britta Von Zweigbergk's second new book, 'Centrepieces, A Story of Mental Health and Art in Bexley' with input from many people involved in Centrepieces over the years is now going for a 2<sup>nd</sup> reprint and is on sale at the Lodge at £14.99, available to Centrepieces artists and volunteers at the reduced rate of £12.99. Britta has also just finished another book, an anthology of Poems by Bexley Hospital patients including some Centrepieces artists, which will soon be published under Centrepieces Press.

## FUNDRAISING

We are proud to announce that our £4.5K bid to the Mayor of London's Cultural Seeds grant scheme for a project entitled 'Art Healing' devised and to be run by Peter Kent has

been successful. Congratulations to Peter and the Fundraising Team! More details to follow as workshops will be starting soon and running until Spring 2020.

A consultation with local groups including Centrepieces is now starting following the recent successful £1M bid to the Arts Council 'Creative People and Places' scheme. This has involved the Erith Exchange, Peabody Trust, Beaux Arts and several other organisations for a project entitled 'Made in the Estuary'. Centrepieces Trustees Guy Tarrant, Rosie Eaglen and Fiona Millar are on the Creative Board and will be monitoring progress.

MORE HALL PLACE INSTALLATIONS We have now received 6 ideas for outline proposals of further artwork in the Gardens at Hall Place, for which Centrepieces will be seeking funding. The 'TWELVE' as the last series was called, has been scaled down to 'SIX'. Please make contact asap if you have any further suggestions/ feel able to take on/ help with any of these projects.

DISCOUNT CARDS AT HOBBYCRAFT Centrepieces Trustee Guy Tarrant has negotiated a 10% discount for Centrepieces artists at the Crayford branch of Hobbycraft. The cards are being produced and will soon be available from the Lodge.

