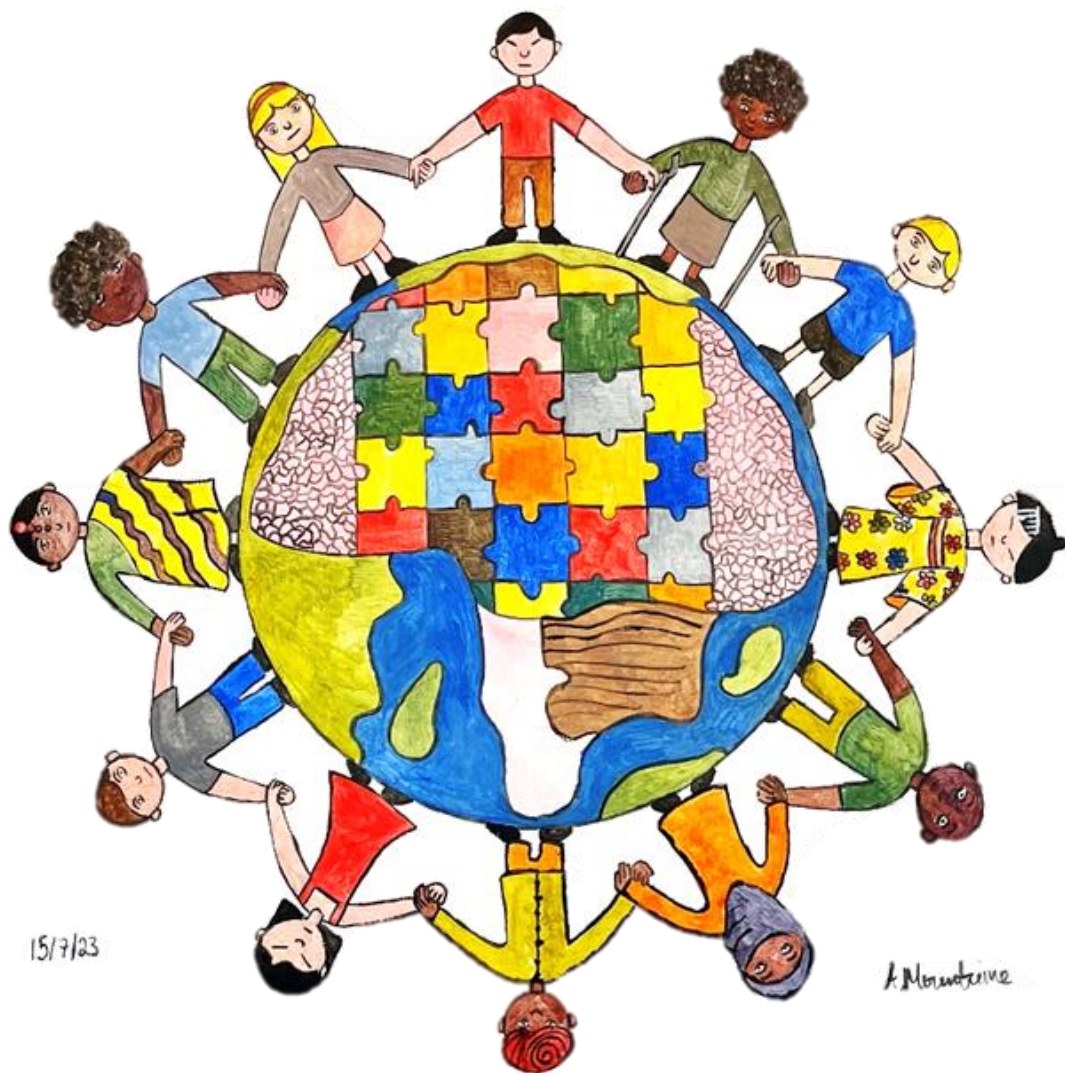


# CENTREPIECES

Mental Health Arts Project  
Registered Charity 1160300

## ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS AT 31 MARCH 2023



**'Togetherness is the Goal'**

**By Centrepieces Artist Andrea Mountaine**



# **CENTREPIECES ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS**

**1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

## **Chairman's Report:**

This was a year of consolidation following the challenges of the Covid years. It was also a year of investment in terms of time, and I am pleased to say that the investment has paid off.

During the year under review, we applied for the prestigious Kings Award for Volunteering. We were delighted to be able to announce on the King's birthday in November that we had been successful in our application. These things do not happen by accident. The award is testimony to the hard work, passion and commitment displayed by our many volunteers. Thank you everyone at Centrepieces.

During the year we commenced discussions with Bexley Council with a view to taking on a lease at Sidcup Manor House. This came to fruition in April when we were granted a 1-year lease on just over a quarter of the building. The Manor House is an important local building. It has enabled us to provide 18 studios and some workshop space for our members. It has also provided us with much needed storage space. We are hopeful that the lease will be extended.

We were honoured to have been chosen as the Mayor of Bexley's charities of the year for 2023/24. Councillor Dourmough has been very active in his support for Centrepieces, and we have attended a number of the Mayor's events. I was pleased to have the opportunity to talk to a packed Christchurch in Bexleyheath about the work of Centrepieces. We are grateful to the Mayor for raising our profile in the borough.

On a personal front, I never showed any artistic ability but during Covid when we couldn't venture out, I got into watching Bob Ross' art programmes. Anyone who can produce what he does in 28 minutes with brushes bought from Wickes deserves my respect. So I was delighted to get a Bob Ross colouring book for Christmas. It has proved very therapeutic! Perhaps I'll get a Matisse colour book next year.

**Mike Ellsmore**

**Chair of Trustees**

## **Coordinator's Report:**

Two major events for Centrepieces this year which have already been mentioned in our chairman's report are of course the acquisition of our new premises at Sidcup Manor House (The 'Pop Up') and the success of our nomination for the Kings Award for Voluntary Services (KAVS).

It was very pleasing to see the successful outcome of the premises as we have been through some very challenging times at our previous Pop Up spaces in Bexleyheath with the constant and ultimately implemented threat of 4 weeks notice to leave. As great as these spaces had been for Centrepieces and our artists, we decided it was imperative to stick to our guns for the next opportunity to be with a minimum of one year lease, which is exactly what we have now achieved. This is thanks to the efforts of our Chairman Mike Ellsmore and the support given by Bexley Council in consideration of Centrepieces as a valuable community based Mental Health Arts Project and recognition of the significance of what we can offer to local people experiencing mental ill health and help in their recovery. The security of a longer tenancy has helped to reduce the stress of uncertainty in what had become a somewhat nomadic lifestyle.

After finally being able to reclaim our artwork and studio equipment back from the various storage spaces a new team of volunteers overseen by Karen Larkin was created to help make Sidcup Manor House our new second home, and as I write we now have a thriving community of artists with nearly 20 studio spaces and many of our art workshops taking place in the roomier environs there. The commitment and dedication of our volunteers has been second to none, with new people joining all the time after seeing the positivity in what has been achieved.

The KAVS Award has also been a tremendous boost for the organisation, the MBE for the voluntary Sector which we anticipate will help with future fundraising and our public profile.

It has generally been a very successful year for fundraising, particularly the support given by commercial retail outlets such as Morleys in Bexleyheath, Lush in Bluewater and Argos/Sainsburys in Erith where staff have worked creatively with Centrepieces volunteers to raise significant amounts of money. These efforts have been supplemented by the tremendous support given by the current Mayor of Bexley. And as in previous years a number of Centrepieces artists successfully applied for SANE individual artists awards to help realise and carry out some of their ideas and projects.

We have also held some notable exhibitions particularly the 'Anxiety' Exhibition at the Drill Hall Sandwich, the Stables Exhibition with the World Mental Health Day theme 'Mental Health is a Universal Human Right' and the 'Inner Me' Exhibition at the Exchange Erith. The Stables Exhibition probably ranks as our best ever for sales of artwork and public engagement, supported by a dedicated team of volunteer stewards throughout the month. Much of the energy in recent artwork produced has been fuelled through the new artists studio spaces in Sidcup, and our programme of Art workshops.

Some Centrepieces artists have also held successful solo exhibitions including Dorota Chioma's 'Into the Woods' telling stories about mental through art and Fatma Durmush's 'Meet the Arts'.

It has been very pleasing to see the output of written work by members of Centrepieces and those associated with the project, many of which have or are in the process of being published. Examples include Ann Cronin's second illustrated covid recovery related book 'Creative Insomnia 2', three new books from Britta Von Zweigbergk 'Pictures from the Edge', 'People and their Pictures' and 'Talking

about Art', and Dorota Chioma's Colouring Book 'Tinctures of Mental Health in Pictures'. There are many more including a book of poetry and prose due to be published soon by the Centrepieces Creative Writing Group. The proceeds from sales of these books often include a contribution to Centrepieces.

**Geoff Norris**

**Coordinator**



**'Kaleidoscope'**

**by Centrepieces' artist Azmeena Azim**

## **Legal and Administrative Information:**

### **Registered Office Address:**

The Lodge, Hall Place,  
Bourne Road  
Bexley, Kent.  
DA5 1PQ

**CIO Number:** 1160300

### **Trustees of Centrepieces:**

Mike Ellsmore - Chair  
Jenny Watson - Deputy Chair  
Rosie Eaglen  
Merissa Hamilton (Resigned 03.08.22)  
Georgina Lonergan (Appointed 20.01.23)  
Sally McGregor (Appointed 01.06.22)  
Fiona Miller  
Stefano Nocerino (Resigned 01.06.22)  
Eileen Pallen (Appointed 20.01.23)  
Guy Tarrant  
Britta Von Zweigbergk

The Trustees named have served during the period of the accounts. Appointment of Trustees is governed by the CIO Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Trustee Board is authorised to appoint new trustees to fill vacancies arising through resignation, or the death of an existing trustee.

### **Structure, Governance and Management:**

Centrepieces is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charities Commission on the 3rd of February 2015. The CIO has a volunteer Coordinator and a number of members who take on allocated voluntary responsibilities on a day-to-day basis. A Board of Trustees is responsible for the strategic direction and funding of the organisation, recruitment of new trustees as and when necessary, activities which are supported by 3 committees who meet periodically to discuss their specialist areas including Arts, Finance and Funding of the CIO, and then report to the full Board of Centrepieces.

### **Objectives of organisation:**

To promote the recovery of adults in the London Borough of Bexley and surrounding areas who experience or have experienced, mental health problems by providing resources and support to enable them to participate in arts and related mental health enhancing activities, and to develop artistically and to achieve better social inclusion through art related activities.

- To promote mental health recovery through art
- To provide an outlet for artists with mental health issues to exhibit and sell their artwork
- To achieve long term financial sustainability
- To achieve long term security of tenure with regard to our premises
- To provide a safe and stimulating environment for our members
- To apply for available and appropriate funding
- To achieve a funding and income level allowing for the employment of paid staff

## **Centrepieces CIO – Financial Report**

It gives us pleasure to present our eighth financial report, covering the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

This year has seen our total cash reserves increase from £18,407 to £24211. Our unrestricted funds, which are included in these figures increased from £12,037 to £12,234.

Our biggest overhead cost at £5,376 was spending on storage. However, the lease at Manor House, Sidcup has enabled us to eliminate much of this cost in the current financial year [2023/24].

We were fortunate to receive a large one-off donation of £10,000, most of which has been taken into our restricted funds with some £2,000 going into our unrestricted funds. We are grateful to the donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

We have kept a tight control of our spending at our Manor House studios with rents charged for studio space covering our running costs.

I continue to be grateful to Jean Lyons and Annie Greywoode for their hard work and commitment in keeping Centrepieces' finances in a well ordered and controlled state. They have had to deal with the cost control required with the leasing of the Manor House.

**Michael Ellsmore, CPFA**  
**Trustee**

# CENTREPIECES CIO

## Receipts & Payments Accounts for the period

**1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	£	£	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Artwork Sold	4,310	-	4,310	6,524
Bexley Community Lottery	546	-	546	546
Contribution to workshops	4,264	3,135	7,399	3,465
Donations Inc GA	10,513	8,000	18,513	10,847
Grants	-	2,000	2,000	-
Membership	2,924	-	2,924	1,934
Picture Loan Scheme	500	-	500	1,000
Other	452	-	452	628
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>23,509</b>	<b>13,135</b>	<b>36,644</b>	<b>24,944</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Artist Fees	3,140	2,790	5,930	7,485
Art Materials	649	1,733	2,382	3,632
Artwork Sold-payment to Artists	1,995	-	1,995	5,215
Building & Assoc Cost	291	-	291	1,326
Exhibitions	-	2,297	2,297	1,527
Function & Meeting Expenses	948	46	994	952
Inspire Awards	-	300	300	375
Insurance	465	-	465	399
IT & Office Equipment	628	-	628	156
Printing ,Postage & Stationery	959	-	959	1,481
Publications	94	-	94	230
Rent & Rates	2,518	-	2,518	3,516
Storage Costs	5,376	-	5,376	3,992
Telephone & Internet	1,732	55	1,787	1,867
Utilities	2,352	-	2,352	1,713
Volunteer Travel	2,081	50	2,131	2,904
Other Expenses	341	-	341	1,207
	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>23,569</b>	<b>7,271</b>	<b>30,840</b>	<b>37,977</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-60</b>	<b>5,864</b>	<b>5,804</b>	<b>13,033</b>
Cash funds last year end	12,037	6,370	18,407	31,440
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>11,977</b>	<b>12,234</b>	<b>24,211</b>	<b>18,407</b>



Financial statements report and review:

- In my opinion the accounts above give a true and fair view of the CIO affairs at the end of this financial year.
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Commission for Charitable incorporated Organisations (CIO).



**Mike Ellsmore CPFA**  
**Trustee**

**Reserves Policy:**

The Trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain appropriate to the needs of the CIO. This is based on the size of the CIO and level of commitments held currently. The Trustees aim to ensure the CIO will be able to continue to fulfil its objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall of income.

**Risk Review:**

The Trustees conduct periodic reviews of the major risks to which the CIO is exposed and systems and procedures to manage those risks identified are implemented so as to minimise any potential impact on the CIO should any of those risks materialise.

**Plans for the Future:**

The CIO plans to continue its activities in the forthcoming year and beyond subject to satisfactory funding and income levels.

**We gratefully acknowledge and thank the support of:**

- The London Borough of Bexley
- Hall Place House and Gardens
- The Exchange, Erith
- Bexley Voluntary Service Council