

# 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 - a move financially supported by Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust.

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, as well as using the space to develop their own work individually. Centrepieces applies for ad hoc funding for art projects and commissions such as public art in the local community, with artists playing a key role in leading these.

In 2023, Centrepieces was awarded the prestigious King's Award for Voluntary Services.

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



**The King's Award  
for Voluntary Service**

*The MBE for volunteer groups*



*'Evolution,' Group work, 2023. Acrylic on canvas*

## • CONTACT •

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FOR ALL ENQUIRIES  
01322 554589  
info@centrepieces.org

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



Website: [www.centrepieces.org](http://www.centrepieces.org)  
Blog: [www.centrepiecesblog.blogspot.com](http://www.centrepiecesblog.blogspot.com)  
Facebook: Centrepieces Mental Health Arts Project  
Instagram: @centrepiecesart

# CENTREPIECES

Mental Health Arts Project  
Registered Charity 1160300



01322 554589  
[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 and wishes to practice art or volunteer in the project.

**“WHEN I JOINED CENTREPIECES, I COULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS. IT'S HELPED ME TO BUILD BACK MY CONFIDENCE AND NOW I CAN HELP OTHER PEOPLE.”**

*Karen Larkin, Assistant coordinator.*

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 •
- Participation in helping others to develop as artists •
- Volunteering roles within the project, such as administration, finance, events, fundraising and project management •



*Stables Gallery Exhibition, 2023*

## • PROJECTS •

PREVIOUS EXAMPLES OF CENTREPIECES PROJECTS INCLUDE:

**'TWELVE' IN HALL PLACE GARDENS**

**TERRAZO NEST SCULPTURE AT HALL PLACE**

**'BROKEN YET STILL BEAUTIFUL' AT HALL PLACE**

**'THE MASKS WE WEAR' AT HURSTMERE SCHOOL**

CURRENT WORKSHOPS INCLUDE:

- Sculpture
- Drawing and Painting
- Creative Writing
- Photography club
- Saturday open craft sessions
- Taster sessions & short courses

Our workshops are held at the Lodge Hall Place and in our Pop-up space in Sidcup, where we also have artists studios.



*'The Worrier', 2000 in Crayford Riverside Gardens*

Centrepieces holds regular art exhibitions and auctions in venues such as local libraries, galleries, as well as an annual exhibition in the Stables Gallery at Hall Place.

It also participates in local festivals and events. Occasional visits are organised to places of artistic interest, such as the Queens Gallery and Turner Contemporary.

## • 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 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 also apply to become a CIO 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 Centrepieces at the address, e-mail, or phone number overleaf. The Lodge Hall Place and The Pop-up at Sidcup are normally open Mon to Fri (excl. Wed), 10am - 4pm, and on Saturday (Sidcup only), 10am - 1pm



*Centrepieces' volunteers at the Sidcup Pop-up, 2023*