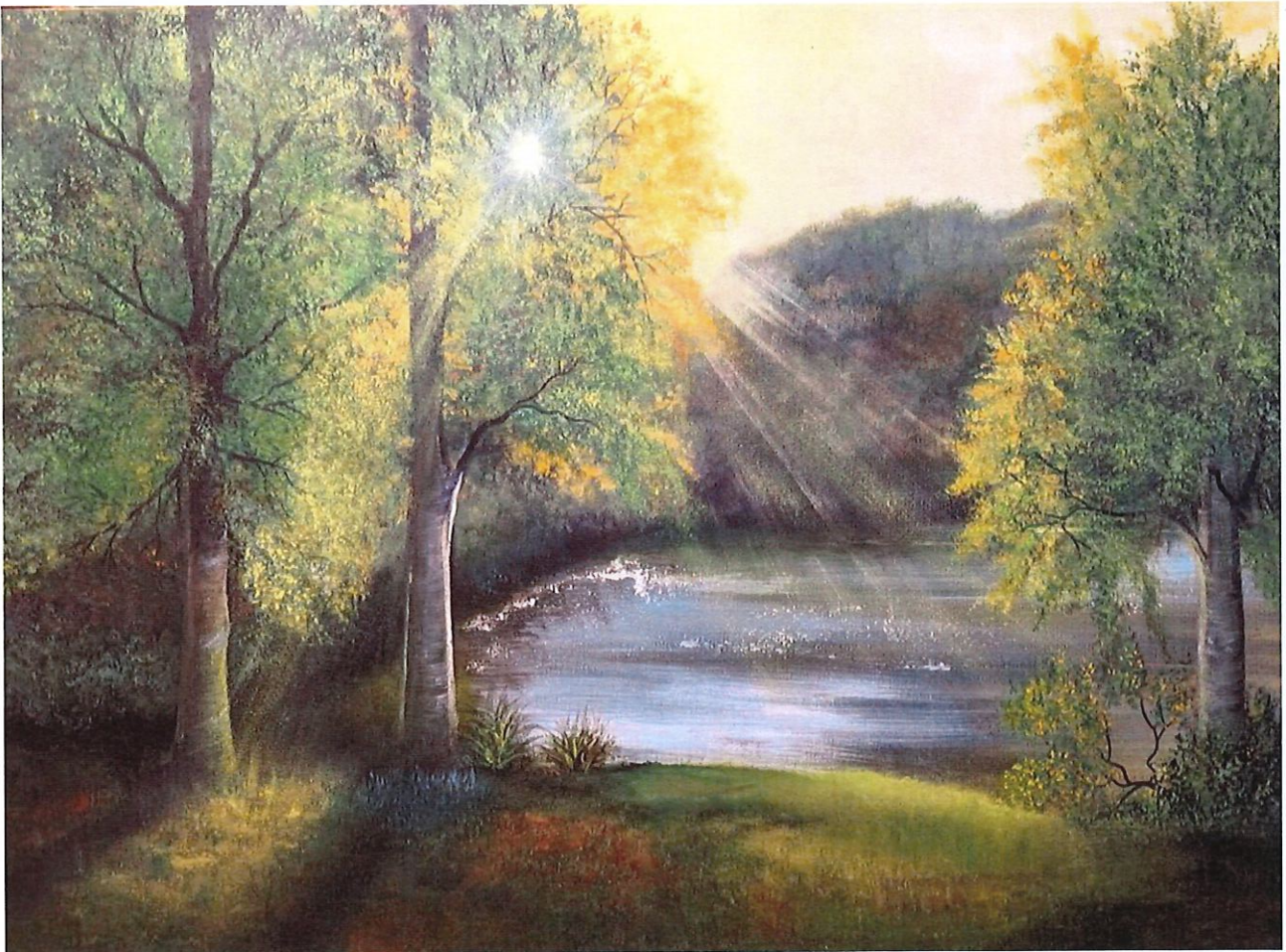


CENTREPIECES

Mental Health Arts Project
Registered Charity 1160300

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS AT 31 MARCH 2024



'By The Lake'

By Centrepieces Artist Liliani Dilrukshan

CENTREPIECES ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Chairman's Report:

We had a number of highlights during 2023/24 There are two which will last long in our collective memory. We were selected as the Mayor of Bexley's charity of the year. We attended a number of events in support of Councillor Dourmoush's year. We were delighted to receive £10,000 from the Mayor's charity. We also received the King's Award for Voluntary Service. I had the great pleasure of receiving the award at the Tower of London from the Lord Lieutenant along with our Coordinator, Geoff Norris. Two of our senior volunteers were also invited to the King's Garden party. Bexley's Deputy Lieutenant, David Easton, attended Hall Place to present KAVS medals to a number of our volunteers.

Of course, both those highlights were the icing on the cake. Behind the public events an army of volunteers provides the engine room which enables us to continue to provide a wide range of services for our members. Our vibrant workshop programme offers a range of opportunities at both Hall Place Lodge and at Sidcup Manor House. These are complemented by online sessions. The Manor House enables us to offer studio space to eighteen of our members. We have also taken the opportunity to refresh many of our policies. Although we are a small charity we are required to have a full range of policies. We have also recruited a number of new trustees who have provided a welcome refresh to the trustee board.

We are pleased to have been able to remain at Sidcup Manor House beyond the initial one-year lease term. We are now on a rolling six-month lease. We are also in active discussion with Bexley on possible alternative accommodation once the Manor House lease terminates. We continue to be very grateful to the London Borough of Bexley for their support and help with our accommodation.

Finally, I would like to thank all our volunteers without whom Centrepieces would not exist.

Mike Ellsmore

Chair of Trustees

Coordinator's Report:

Firstly I would like to reiterate the importance of what our Chair Mike Ellsmore said in his report about the significance of Centrepieces' achievement in attaining the Kings Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS), the MBE for the voluntary sector. We were told how competitive this process would be and were scrutinised thoroughly before the final evaluation and decision. The presentation of KAVS badges to all Centrepieces volunteers was a tremendous occasion attended by the Mayor and the Deputy Lieutenant of Bexley in full regalia at our Stables Exhibition in April, with many photographs taken to commemorate. A great accolade to all the Centrepieces volunteers both old and new, who have contributed so much over the years.

Last year was also very successful on the arts front, with our Annual Exhibition in the Stables Gallery at Hall Place in March attracting much interest from the public. It was our largest ever sale of artwork and related items such as cards and craft items. The success of the exhibition was enabled by the quality of artwork on display and through the fantastic team effort of our volunteer stewards and everyone behind the scenes, who have now acquired a good bedrock of experience to carry out such events. We used the Mental Health Awareness Week theme of Mental Health and Movement which was carried through successfully to our following exhibition in the Drill Hall Sandwich in May.

I would also like to thank Centrepieces Chair Mike and Assistant Coordinator Karen for the personal effort that they and their families made, alongside many artists and volunteers, in supporting the Mayor of Bexley's fundraising events which took place throughout the whole of last year. We received £10,000 from the Mayor's Fund at the end of Councillor Andy Dourmouh's term of office. It was a pleasure to see Councillor Dourmouh and his wife at so many of our own events and we thank them for their friendship and support.

Plans are now underway for Centrepieces to take an active part in the celebration of the 60th anniversary of Bexley as a London Borough through our next Stables Gallery Exhibition at Hall Place this summer. This also coincides with the 25th anniversary of Centrepieces as a Mental Health Arts Project, with the last 10 years as a registered Charity.

We have been making good use of our satellite premises the 'Pop Up' in the old Sidcup Manor House, in addition to our more permanent smaller base at the Lodge at Hall Place. The Pop Up houses 18 Centrepieces artists' studios as well as offering extra space for our art workshops and other events. It is run by a team of about 7 very active volunteers and we will have been there for 2 years by this spring time.

The art workshop programme has been as busy and vibrant as ever. We are constantly developing new ideas such as the Black History Month 'Sorrow Songs' workshops with an associated blog, and a great series of workshops led by our Patron Willow Winston utilising found woodland materials which were then incorporated into a sculpture sited in the Monkton Nature reserve in Kent. There has been plenty of development in sculptural carving with a highly popular series of relief workshops in Portland limestone. Another interesting new workshop was run by Madison Miller called Soundscape. As part of her PhD Madison helped our artists explore the healing power of nature by recording sounds and images from the natural environment. A book of poems and writing with some artwork from the Centrepieces Creative Writing group is due to be published very soon. I'd like to thank all the Centrepieces Tutors who put so much time, energy and creativity into designing workshops that are stimulating and helpful towards our artists' development.

In addition there have been several notable personal achievements by our artists this year such as Lilani Dilrukshan obtaining the SANE 'Charles Bracken' Award for one of the best submitted pieces of artwork, and Abdul Adeniran's curation of the 'Creativity of Freedom' show in North London.

As ever at Centrepieces, some people have moved on and new faces have arrived. With sadness we mourn the loss of Centrepieces artist, volunteer, tutor and founder member Alex Spendley and thank Gajanani Ganeshu for her time as a volunteer. We also thank former Trustees Rosie Eaglen and Guy Tarrant who both offered many years of support to Centrepieces and welcome new Trustees Sujatha Thaladi, Sharan Sanger and Freddie Clough. Volunteers Natalie Whiten and Carla Diniz have now been appointed as the new part time Assistant Coordinators to help Karen and Geoff in their roles.

Geoff Norris

Coordinator



'The Long Dark Journey'

By Centrepieces Artist Paul Ford-Hunt

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
Georgina Lonergan
Sally McGregor
Fiona Miller
Eileen Pallen
Rashikkha Ra Iyer
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 Ninth financial report, covering the year to 31st March 2024.

This year has seen our total cash reserves decrease from £24211 to £22,657. Our unrestricted funds, which are included in these figures decreased from £12,234 to £9,038.

We continue to keep a tight control of our finances. It is worth remembering that we receive no public funding and are very reliant on the goodwill of our volunteers, member subscriptions and donations. The addition of Sidcup Manor House whilst extremely beneficial in terms of the services we can offer to our members, does place a significant financial pressure on the charity. We are looking at ways of mitigating some of these pressures

Michael Ellsmore, CPFA
Trustee

CENTREPIECES CIO
Receipts & Payments Accounts for the period
1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Artwork Sold	6,726	-	6,726	4,310
Bexley Community Lottery	613	-	613	546
Contribution to workshops	5,345	75	5,420	7,399
Donations Inc GA	11,824	-	11,824	18,513
Grants	1,839	-	1,839	2,000
Membership	2,900		2,900	2,924
Picture Loan Scheme	-	-	-	500
Other	436	-	436	452
<i>Total receipts</i>	29,683	75	29,758	36,644

PAYMENTS				
Artist Fees	3,792	200	3,992	5,930
Art Materials	1,452	362	1,814	2,382
Artwork Sold-payment to Artists	3,464	-	3,464	1,995
Building & Assoc Cost	1,453	-	1,453	291
Exhibitions	-	1,206	1,206	2,297
Function & Meeting Expenses	917	-	917	994
Inspire Awards	-	375	375	300
Insurance	530	-	530	465
IT & Office Equipment	977	-	977	628
Printing ,Postage & Stationery	1,091	194	1,285	959
Publications	155	-	155	94
Rent & Rates	5,621	-	5,621	2,518
Storage Costs	688	-	688	5,376
Telephone & Internet	1,401	-	1,401	1,787
Utilities	2,427	121	2,548	2,352
Volunteer Travel	3,605	813	4,418	2,131
Other Expenses	468	-	468	341
	-	-	-	-
<i>Total Payments</i>	28,041	3,271	31,312	30,840

<i>Surplus/Deficit</i>	1,642	-3,196	-1,554	5,804
Cash funds last year end	11,977	12,234	24,211	18,407
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	13,619	9,038	22,657	24,211

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
- Bexley Voluntary Service Council