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**Cc:** [Rita Wright](#); [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** Art Matters Newsletter 16th April 2021  
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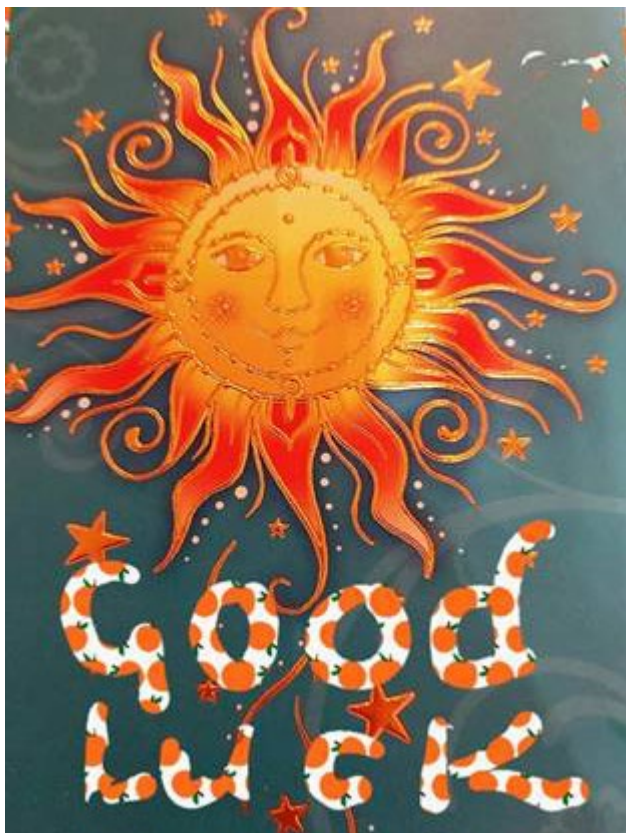
Dear Artists. 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021

We hope you are safe and well.

On Tuesday we reopened for sessions and art is once again being created in the Art Matters studio. We hope everyone who has attended this week enjoyed and felt safe being back. It was good to see you. Please remember your sessions are every two weeks and do contact us if you are unable to attend.

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This newsletter celebrates new artworks, thoughts and poems from you this week, all of which are amazing, beautiful and help us feel connected. We also bring more information on the new Covid test kits and an exhibition of photographs in the studio. We start with Lucy's much appreciated new work.



*Wishing You All Good Luck for the restart of Art Matters! Lucy.*  
Thank you for your good wishes Lucy.

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### Covid Testing

We mentioned last week that many chemists and pharmacies now stock Covid-19 testing kits. The kit contains 7 tests for use at home and gives results in about 25 minutes. They are for anyone who does not have symptoms. Pharmacists will ask why you want a kit (to get tested) and your age. The kits are also available online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Use this service to order free packs of rapid lateral flow tests to be sent to your home. You can order one pack per household each day and they are pretty much next day delivery.

If you would rather pick up a test kit locally the full list of where they are available is on the

link below.

<https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

The government is encouraging us all to test and the online and pick up services appear to be running well. Art Matters staff are testing twice a week.

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*After attending Beth's workshop I decided to apply what I had learned. 'The Magus' came from taking a line for a walk using acrylic paint. Thanks Beth. This is a new way of exploring my creativity. Nigel.*

Brilliant. Thanks to Nigel and Beth.

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'Spring is in the Air'.

Art Matters have been asked to review a photo competition 'Spring is in the Air'. 38 photographs from Richmond Fellowship staff and Service Users are currently exhibited in the studio. There are two categories we have been asked to judge;

- Best overall photo
- Best interpretation of "spring is in the air"



The exhibition runs until the end of the month. Which two get your vote!

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Barry's beautiful 'spring' artwork.

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All the images can be found on the Art Matters Instagram account.

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*I've been doing some felting recently so have sent the attached to show you what I have done. See you soon. Moira*  
Amazing felting Moira!

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*From the wonderful colours of Healing Garden!*

*Spring.... brought snow!*

*Just like life?*

*We bloom and we wither!*

*Breathe we must!*

Thank you Raj for your considered words and photograph.

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*Do you have a message for an Art Matters friend? Send it to us and we'll put it in the newsletter. Likewise, a thought for the day, a poem, an idea or a picture you'd like to share.*

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*Beautiful Jean. Hi guys. Here's my latest pencil drawing of Jean. I hope you are all well. I'm looking forward to seeing you on Friday morning. Best wishes. Nigel*

Thanks Nigel for sending us this wonderful drawing of Jean.



*'Time for Tea'*. Beautiful new embroidery from Molly.

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Thank you everyone for sending in your work. It's an amazing collection. Art Matters feels very proud.

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Please continue to listen to Government advice and stay safe and stay in touch. Look after yourselves and each other.



Monday!

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Contacting Art Matters: [artmatters@richmondfellowship.org.uk](mailto:artmatters@richmondfellowship.org.uk) - all staff access these e-mails. You can also call the studio number on 01737 766212 and if we are unable to pick up leave a message and one of us will get back to you as soon as we can.

Staff mobile numbers:

David: 07741 817654 – 9:30 – 4:00. Tuesday to Friday.

Natasha: 07786 191114 – 9:30 – 4:00. Wednesday to Friday.

Rita: 07741 817651 – Tuesday – Thursday.

Mark: 077886 191154 – 9:30 – 4:00. Monday – Friday.

We'll see you soon.

The Art Matters team.

Mark Cremmen

Studio Manager

Art Matters

Richmond Fellowship

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