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To: [Mark Cremmen](#); [Natasha Dovey](#); [Rita Wright](#); [David Mackenzie-Dewhirst](#)
Subject: Art Matters newsletter
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Dear Artists. 19th March 2021

We hope you have what you need, are safe and well. During our current calls to you we'll talk about your start back date and from next Friday, 26th March, our calls will end as we prepare to reopen the studio. However, please remember you are welcome to phone, text or e-mail us if you need to on the numbers at the end of this newsletter.

This week we celebrate your new artworks, thoughts and poems, all of which are amazing, beautiful and help us feel connected. We also consider some of the work underway to open Art Matters safely on 12th April. We start with Emma's 'Reynard the Fox with Alfie and Luna the Rabbit'!



Hello. Here's a picture of Reynard the Fox with Alfie and Luna the Rabbit, it's been a mission sewing tiny clothes and I guess it will take a lot of practice!

Have a nice weekend and speak soon,

Emma

Thanks Emma. Good to meet the gang. Wonderful.



Lisa B – 'My studies of my soon to be pirate dad lol'
Arrrr! These portraits are great Lisa - are they in oils?



Hi. Hello. How are you? I'm doing well and have got some new pictures done I'm really pleased with. I have thought a lot about these pictures and have found them easier to understand recently. Most of it had been thought through although getting used to a new technique it does have some areas I could improve on. I feel I can only get so much done each day and setting myself new tasks is important. I have found something I can actually get better at using existing materials. Anthony.

Thank you so much for sending us the work Anthony and its inspiring to see you using existing materials to create new techniques and work.



Before and after; Upcycling by Jodie.

I took the handles off, pain in the bum they were, sanded it all, filled in the holes I didn't need for the knobs, sanded again and then painted it. Added the knobs this evening and I am so proud of my upcycling

There are paw prints on the top thanks to Gia but it adds character I think.

All done and it's now in my bedroom feel really good doing it and making it look like that. Never again though, my kitchen will never be the same again after using an electric sander!

Really good to hear of the pride you take in your work Jodie.

Roadmap to reopening Art Matters.

It's been a busy week as we work through the Art Matters Covid-19 Risk Assessment. We continue to plan to start sessions again on April 12th. If you haven't had a start back date you should hear from us next week – any questions please phone the studio. Just a note to say Rita and Mark are on annual leave next week, so leave a message and David or Natasha will get back to you.

Many of the measures in place when we closed in January - ensuring safe distancing, PPE, studio layout, number of people attending, creative activities etc. – will remain in place when we start back.



Here is my first contribution for the animal theme for this month.

My other rabbit Freddie wasn't as photogenic!

Thanks Nathalie. Good to meet Biscuits! I believe a picture of Freddie has arrived!



Birthday card for my brother, all made from parts of watches – Philippa.

Fine work Philippa. I imagine your brother will be thrilled. Thanks for sharing.

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



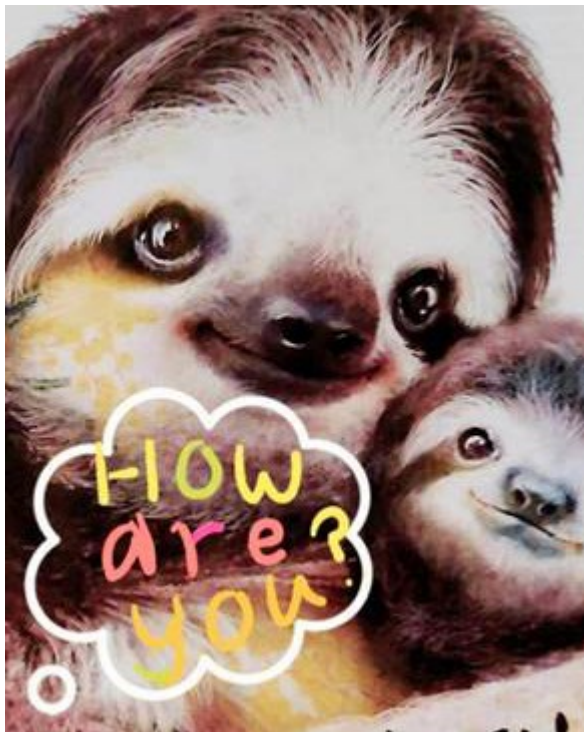
Mothering Sunday Flowers by Molly. Such a beautiful painting.

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.



New work in gouache on handmade paper. Hi guys hope you are all well looking forward to seeing you all soon best wishes Nigel.

Amazing Nigel. Such texture – geometry! Maybe a ‘gouache’ workshop someday...?



Possibly the most important question we could ask. Lucy.

Thanks Lucy. We need to ask, and to listen.



**WORKING
TOGETHER
FORUM**
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

Save the date →

20
MAY

Contact pqiservicedesk@richmondfellowship.org.uk for further details

The Richmond Fellowships Working Together Forum – more details to follow.



Fear not.

Have the strength and courage!

Have the fate in your spirit!

You will overcome to get better!

You will be again yourself!

Fear not in your journey as a pilgrim!

Photo courtesy of Jeff Overs.

Thanks you Raj for your thought for the day. Pilgrims and lighthouses. What an amazing picture. You can see a photographer in the foreground!



Fantastic cross-stitch Suzanne.

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

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

Contacting Art Matters:

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: A/L

Mark: A/L

Until next time.

The Art Matters team.

Mark Cremmen

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