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2 April 2020

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## Welcome to the Baring Foundation's arts e-newsletter

We hope you are all keeping as well as possible at this difficult time and find this e-newsletter a useful read.

With our best wishes  
The Baring Foundation

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## This issue's highlight



## Coronavirus: Arts & creative resources for care homes & older people

We've put together a list of creative resources that might be useful particularly for staff in care homes, especially when no external guests can come in for activities or entertainment. Some have been funded by us as part of our Arts & Older People programme – and some we've been told about (thank you!).

In particular, check out **Arts in Care Homes** who are setting up a Pen (email) Pal scheme linking up care homes with children, families and anybody who'd like to become a correspondent.

And also in Scotland, **Luminate**, who have launched Luminat@Home, a new programme of short online films demonstrating creative activities developed with Scottish Care. New additions every Tuesday and Friday at 2pm (starting 24 March).

For other and more ideas, see also the **MARCH Network** and the **Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance which is collating resources** from across the arts & health field – for everyone and for groups who might be particularly isolated at the moment.

FIND OUT MORE





## Delivering participatory arts in an age of physical distancing

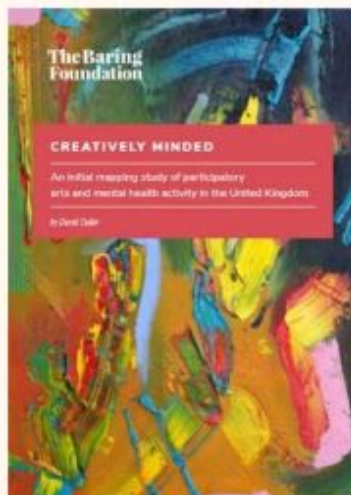
### ***Being creative and being together: Creative Alternatives Online***

Creative Alternatives - an arts-on-prescription service in Merseyside - developed an online version of their arts programme in 2017. Its Director, Jessica Bockler, explains in a blog how they approached going online and how they are now taking their local programme online because of the coronavirus pandemic.

### ***Share your experiences?***

We would like to collect some more good practice and ideas for delivery and engagement during the crisis from other Arts & Mental Health organisations. If you would like to share what you're doing or plan to do, **please do get in touch!**

[READ THE BLOG](#)



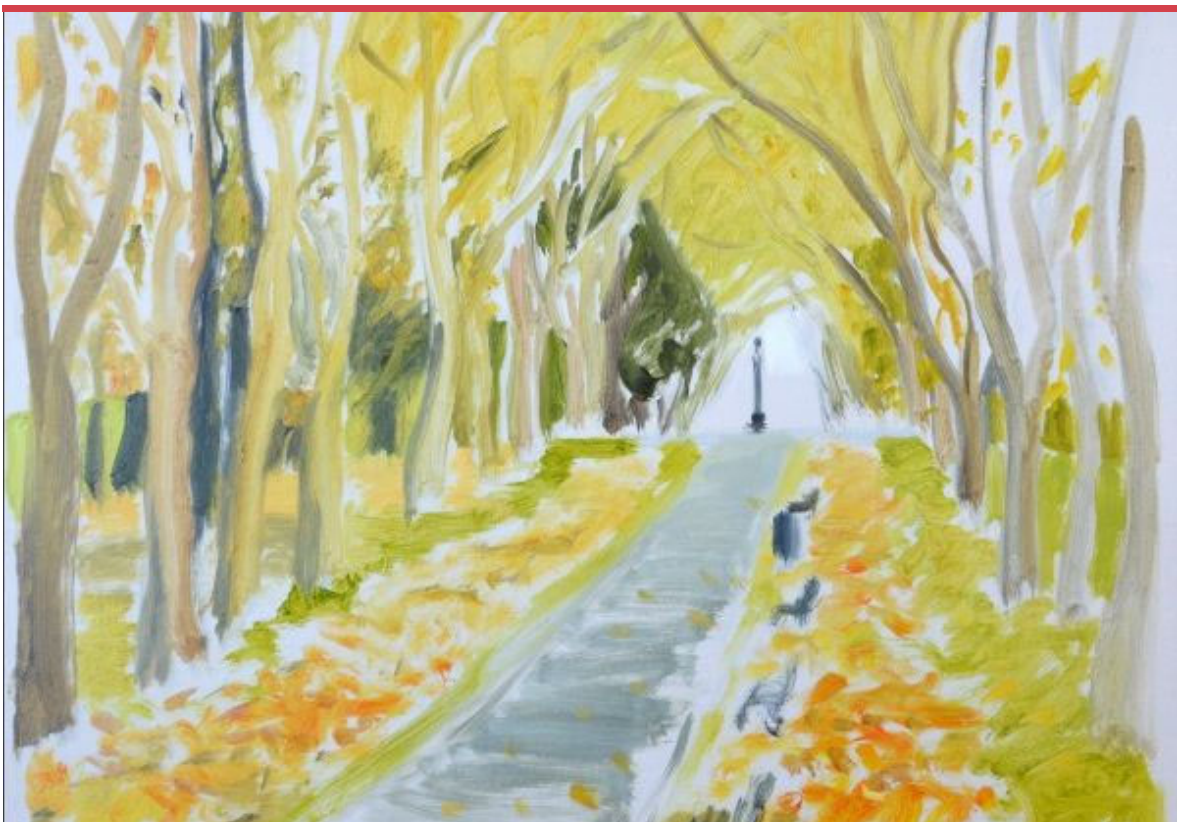
## The arts and mental health: a vibrant field flying under the radar

In **an article for Arts Professional**, the Foundation's Director outlines his first impressions of the arts and mental health sector – vibrant and vital, but also often stretched and precarious.

A full set of (early stage and tentative) observations can be found in our new mapping study on arts and mental health activity in the UK, **Creatively Minded** by David Cutler, which we published at the end of January.

The report was produced to help inform **our new funding programme** to start later in 2020. We will share information about this on our website and via this newsletter as and when it becomes available.

[READ THE REPORT](#)





## Give those feelings ceilings – a blog by Creatively Minded cover artist, George Harding

George Harding is an oil painter who kindly provided the image for the front cover of our report on arts and mental health, Creatively Minded.

**He's written a blog** for us about how he came to paint and the importance of organisations like the Bethlem Gallery and the Studio Upstairs who have played a role in his life and career.

Artist Dolly Sen also wrote about what art means to her in the foreword to the report, which is on our **website here**.

(Above image: St George's Park in autumn, oil on board, 10x12in, 2019)

[READ GEORGE'S BLOG](#)



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## Funding to support two conferences on Arts and Mental Health

We will be supporting two conferences later this year on Arts & Mental Health - one with the London Arts in Health Forum and the other in Wales with the Mental Health Foundation Wales.

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## Report on activities 2019

### Our Report on Activities for 2019

We have just published our annual review of grant-making for 2019.

Includes hard-to-choose examples of work we've supported – from our Arts programme last year, the first-ever National Arts in Care Homes Day and our long-term partnership with Arts Council Northern Ireland and its Arts & Older People programme.

[READ THE REPORT](#)[baringfoundation.org.uk](https://baringfoundation.org.uk)

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