



Dear BBL,

Here is our report for Quarter July/Aug/Sept 2017.

At every session we start by having a cuppa and a biscuit and share any news since last time we met. This is a really important part of the session as it allows everyone to reconnect and feel part of the group.

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Carol lead the session today. Participants made impressions in clay with leaves and used these to fill a deep frame. There was lots of discussion about the varieties of leaves, with some people recalling the Latin names too! Squeezing and rolling clay is very therapeutic and Joyce said it reminded her of when she used to make her own pastry.



These were left to dry, ready for painting next session.



Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2017



After commenting how lovely and bright these looked in the garden, we used these as the inspiration to create something 'similar' of our own.







We also painted some of the clay work from the last session and left them to dry again, ready to be framed during the next session.



One member of the group was feeling particularly low this week, so after a good sing-song, Marti instigated a little dance session which cheered her up immeasurably. Thanks Marti 😊



**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

Our local artist Carol was ill and couldn't make this session, so our newest member of the team, Tizzie, was asked to pull something out of the bag and prepare a session overnight.

The weather was very dull and as it was summer we decided to brighten up the day with a splash of colour. It was decided that the theme should be brightly coloured flowers and/or the seaside to cheer us up.



We used dyed eggshells and glue to either create the flowers or use the pictures to overlay for those who found this more challenging.







During this activity Marti, Andy, Rita and the staff had a good sing along to some older classics, with Marti and Andy breaking out in dance at one point.

One member of the group was not feeling very well and so we reminisced about his past working life.

The group worked very hard and the end results were **beautiful!**



We really need a gallery now to be able to display some of our wonderful creations. 😊



**Wednesday 22 August 2017**



We received the sad news last week that one of our Memory Lane group, Dick Dickenson, had passed away.

Dick didn't always take part in the creative part of the sessions but enjoyed the company and chatting with other members of the group. We hope that Sheila and Simon will continue to come to Memory Lane sessions.

Today's session of rag rugging was led by local artist Carol.

We started off with a blank mat with some strips of scraps of fabric in hope that we could make this a Memory Lane show piece.



The fabric strips were then threaded through the mat and knotted.





At first both Joyce and Rita found this a little fiddly but they soon got the hang of it.

Joyce liked the soft textures of the brightly coloured fabric.



There was no set pattern so everyone could use their own choice of colours and styles. The team worked together and we all had a good sing along to some good old classics. Rita commented how much she loved singing and how it cheers you up. Although she thought she couldn't remember the words to many songs, she soon joined in and the words came flooding back.

It didn't take long until the rug was starting to fill up, although this is a story to be continued.....





**13<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

Today's session of canvas painting was led by Carol Parker.

Carol brought in some blank canvases which the group painted. There was a good selection of different, brightly coloured paints.



It was fabulous to see Simon back this week after sadly losing his father (Dick) a few weeks ago. He said he enjoys the group's support and would like to be able to continue to come to Memory Lane. With the groups support he also got involved with the session.

After painting the canvas a base colour it was then time to put some decoration on. There were different technics with paint spray, sponges, plastic knives and different brushes.

Sarah and Joyce also added some glitter to their masterpieces.







Andy added some stencil shapes to his which looked like cactuses.

The end products were very impressive, Simon went for an oriental look and Marti and Andy seemed quite proud of their work!





29<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Today's session was led by Tizzie and Debbie and was decorative jars.

First of all we started off with some plain glass jars. These were then painted with white chalk paint, allowing things to stick to the glass.



The chalk paint takes about 20 minutes to dry, during this time the group looked through magazines and choose the themes they would like to decorate their glass jars with. Simon decided to go for an animal theme whereas Joyce wanted a fruit theme. She was able to make use of some pictures that had already been cut out, to ensure she was able to complete the task.



Andy checked his cut outs very carefully to make sure they fitted in the right places on the jar before sticking them down with PVA glue.





Joyce was upset about some things and wanted to air this with the group as she says –“We are all friends here”.

The whole group offered their support and Marti decided to start a sing-along. Everyone around the table got involved, which lightened the mood

The collage then needed to be sealed so PVA glue was used again to coat the images.

The finished jars looked lovely and will be ready for collection next session once they have dried. Joyce said she might put a candle in hers

JUST LOOK AT THESE BEAUTIES.

