

Reflections in Lockdown

An invitation to contribute to an HLSI Archives project

What will be our collective memory of Covid-19, of the greater part of a year spent in lockdown? What will we choose to remember and what will we choose to forget? We tend to remember distinct events; things that seem to last forever leave a smaller imprint.

There are already calls for memorials to the pandemic. But events are still raw and continuing. It's too early to make sense of it. Nonetheless, this is a historic moment, one we and others will look back on and seek to understand. There will not be one story, for our suffering has been unequal. Yet everyone has lost something. Many of us have experienced loneliness, anxiety and mistrust, and felt acutely the loss of personal contact. At the same time we have found ourselves to be members of a community we did not know existed, part of a grassroots revolution powered by neighbourhood support groups, millions given to charity, people acting out of love and principle to help each other.

What is your experience of life under Covid, of life in lockdown? We would like to know. We want to collect the reflections of everyone living in Highgate and thereabouts which we will add to the HLSI archives, creating a record of what we feel and are experiencing at this unprecedented time. You may choose to write about one aspect of your life, about a particular incident, or you may wish to comment more generally. Whatever you decide, we ask you to limit yourself to 200 words. Should you wish, you can submit your text anonymously. Please send it to archives@hlsi.net, or by post to the Archives, 11 South Grove, N6 6BS, before 21 June 2021.

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HLSI Archives