

# LOST LETTERS

creative challenge #6

## A POCKET OF HOPE

IT'S NOT  
YOUR  
BIRTHDAY  
BUT...



As part of our Lost Letters project with Surrey History Centre, It's Not Your Birthday But... are inviting you to create a Pocket of Hope in the form of a Victorian puzzle purse.

In the current climate of change and uncertainty, share a message of hope or positivity that may bring someone else some comfort or inspire them.

Looking at the archives, we can see that maintaining a sense of hope encouraged many people to get through difficult times. The example here was written in response to a letter sent by Ms Dabbs in 1916 to the King of Spain, Alfonso XIII. King Alfonso helped those searching for loved ones in the chaos of the Great War. Ms Dabbs wrote many letters in hope of receiving information regarding the whereabouts of her missing fiancé Private Edward George Cutt.



His Majesty earnestly hopes that these inquiries may be the means of procuring satisfactory information for you.

"I am ordered by His Majesty the King, my August sovereign to answer your letter petitionning H.M to cause inquiries to be made in Berlin with regard to Mr. Edward George Cutt... His Majesty earnestly hopes that these inquiries may be the means of procuring satisfactory information for you."





# TASK...

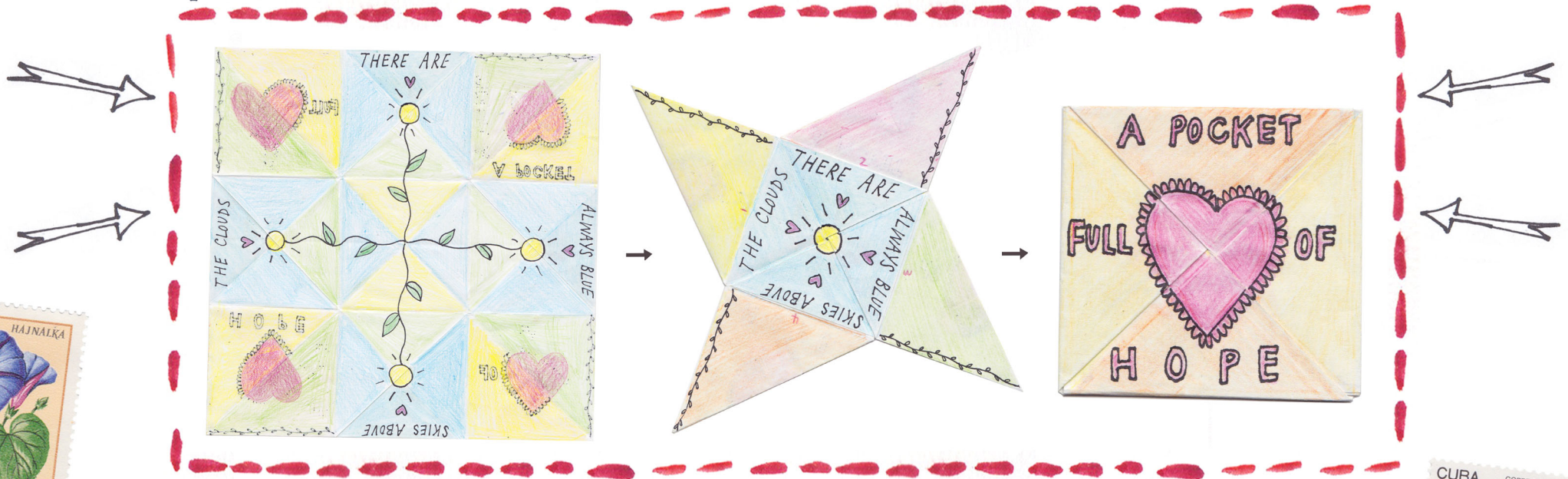
## Share a positive message in A Pocket of Hope



Find and cut a piece of paper into a square and fold into a Victorian puzzle purse (watch the tutorial here to find out how - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbzRmBxOJus>). You could choose a more simple origami shape to fold if you wanted to, or even fold a piece of paper in half.

Think about who you are sharing your message of hope with. What would be helpful for them to hear?

Here is an example:



Decorate your Pocket of Hope with colour and drawings using pencils or paint.

Why not create a pocket of hope to carry around yourself.  
What message would provide you with a sense of hope?  
Perhaps you could write more than one message?





# SHARE...

Challenge created by: Nicole Cowan  
Design by: Nicole Cowan



Share your Pocket of Hope artwork with us. By sending your work to us it may be shared online, in a touring exhibition, and/or donated to the Surrey History Centre to be stored in the archives.

The more original artwork we receive, the richer our collection will be. We would be grateful if you could take a picture of your Pocket of Hope piece and post it online using #pocketofhope:



itsnotyourbirthdaybut



@INYBB\_



It's Not Your Birthday But

or email it to:

itsnotyourbirthdaybut@gmail.com



and then post your original to us at:



INYBB, The Old Bank House, 26 Station Approach,  
Hinchley Wood, Surrey, KT10 0SR



We recognise that not everyone can make it to a postbox or a post office at the current time, so if you are unable to post it, it is fine to just post it online or email it to us. If you need help with postage costs, please get in touch.



**HERITAGE  
FUND**

Thanks to the support of The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Lost Letters is a project working with people across Surrey, thinking about local history and letters. The Pocket of Hope artworks will be stored in Surrey History Centre so that people in the future will understand what people were doing in 2020.