

# LOST LETTERS

creative challenge #3

## TECHNOLOGY IN LOCKDOWN

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 piece of work that expresses how we have been using technology during lockdown, and how it may have helped or hindered us at this time.

*Has technology changed the way that we communicate with each other in the current climate?*

A poem found in the archives, written by Jim Forge in 1940, marks the anniversary of the invention of the Phono-Stethoscope:

When You and I went in 'the gods' to hear great Irving play,  
We watched the lovers meet and kiss from ninety feet away.  
Now all is changed and on the screen we see a monstrous face  
Pressed to another five feet wide in passionate embrace.  
But are there horrors yet to come. Must Science now impart  
Fresh emphasis to Juliet's love and amplify her heart  
Into a boom that fills the hall? May, we must rather hope  
The Cinema will ne'er employ the Phono-Stethoscope.



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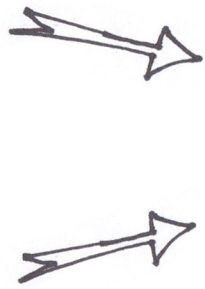
# TASK...

## Create your own piece of work that shows Technology In Lockdown



Think about how you have used technology during lockdown and share your experience in a piece of artwork. This could be a poem, a piece of writing, a song, an illustration, a photo or a recording. Have you found technology to be helpful during lockdown? How has using technology made you feel? Were you excited to use it or did you feel reluctant? Perhaps lockdown has changed the way that you view technology?

Here are some examples:



### Broadband

A decade ago, how different would this be?

Would I be able to turn on a laptop

And then see

My friends, a new baby I can't wait to meet,

My colleagues from work, all from my seat?

A birthday party – I raise my glass,

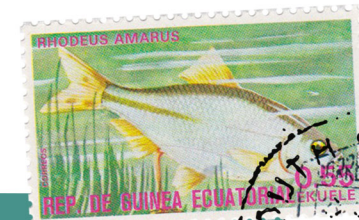
Help my Mum attend an online class.

Not the same of course, I'm grateful though,

These online connections helping us through.



Why not try more than one option and create an illustration to go alongside your poem. Or a photograph to accompany your song.





# SHARE...

Challenge created by: Alexandra Buhler  
Design by: Nicole Cowan



Share your Technology in Lockdown piece 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 Technology in Lockdown piece and post it online using #technologyinlockdown :



itsnotyourbirthdaybut



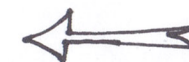
@INYBB\_



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.



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 Technology in Lockdown artworks will be stored in Surrey History Centre so that people in the future will understand what people were doing in 2020.