

The British Journal of Psychiatry

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Arthur et al.

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Cover picture

The Corridor by Jill Chaloner, oil on board, 51 × 61cm

This painting arose out of memories of working and training in several old asylums, Claybury, Bexley and Warley hospitals among others. Also at the back of my mind was a paper I read in the yellow Journal more than 30 years ago entitled "The Corridor People". It was a study of patients whose main activity was daily wandering in the main hospital corridor and who were not in receipt of any other "therapy". It was argued that their seemingly purposeless activity could in fact be part of a healing process. In my picture though the human figures seem to inhabit deep darkness, bright light is never far away hinting at the possibility of transformation.

The painting is part of a series that portray human predicaments in bleak and adverse physical environments and was exhibited at the Sudbury Art Fair in 2019. Jill Chaloner is an East Anglian artist trained at the Norfolk Painting School who previously worked as a Consultant Psychiatrist in the NHS for 20 years.

We are always looking for interesting and visually appealing images for the cover of the Journal and would welcome suggestions or pictures, which should be sent to Dr Allan Beveridge, British Journal of Psychiatry, 21 Prescot Street, London, E1 8BB, UK or bjp@rcpsych.ac.uk.

