



Keeping you in touch with BArts and the local Arts scene
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No.12, June 2021



Theatres and Cinemas Re-opening!



... but not
 in the Borough
 of Broxbourne.....

The Spotlight. Vital work is progressing at a *very* slow pace. The asbestos removal has been completed, but the process created *other* problems which have yet to be resolved and the replacement of the ancient heating system hasn't yet *begun*. Much of the basic technical equipment at the venue is *also* in need of attention, so the recent Mayor-Making, which took place in the auditorium, required various items to be specially *imported*.

With the venue now scheduled not to re-open until December for the professional pantomime, BArts, and many of our groups, will be struggling to return to normal live events and large-scale meetings probably until January 2022! *Virtually* (oops, sorry!) two years out of action and offering only Zoom events isn't good from the point of view of groups' memberships or the local community.

Nationally, there seems to have been a huge effort to seek alternative means of functioning within Covid regulations and quite a few venues have offered imaginative, on-line / relayed performances and events for children, just to keep a trickle of cash coming in, or, when allowed, have made use of their outdoor space for socially-distanced, open-air cinema, concerts etc

Attractive grounds at the Spotlight could be used more often for open-air events.



Hertford Theatre will soon be closing to begin the multi-million £ rebuilding programme. When completed, the building will be able to offer multi-screen cinema, an extended auditorium and new links with the adjacent historic Hertford Castle, to maximise and extend cultural opportunities.

The 'Mission Statement' on the theatre's website is positive and encouraging, showing a real understanding and appreciation of the part that the Arts and Theatre can play in people's lives.

This short extract is particularly notable, but the whole statement is worth reading.....

"We make a difference. Artistic endeavour and engagement have the capacity to change people's lives and contribute to a sense of well-being. We are a catalyst for togetherness and social cohesion.

We play a vital role in developing the cultural and economic life of East Hertfordshire and the people who live here."

<https://www.hertfordtheatre.com/about-us/11/mission-statement>

Perhaps with the re-opening of Lowewood Museum, which is adjacent to the Spotlight, there could be some new opportunities for co-operation and joint / complementary events?





Zoom **BArts' Buffets** Zoom



Light Entertainment at Lunchtime
Illustrated talks served with music and a dash of humour!
Bookings 01992 465383. leerayner_arts@hotmail.com



June 9th Acclaimed composer, Richard Rodgers, and librettist, Oscar Hammerstein's long-term collaboration produced an unbeatable collection of smash hits on Broadway— from *Oklahoma* to *The Sound of Music*. REF EE 9

Sept 8th Every age and stage in life has its pleasures and pitfalls, but a sense of humour is vital when you begin to experience the limitations of old age! REF GZ 8

Gently Zimmering!



July 21st Saucy postcards, Punch and Judy, donkey rides, the end of the pier show—the story of the British seaside in words and music. REF RUP21

Oct 20th "Music is the universal language of mankind; it expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent" REF SWM20



Payment for BArts' Buffets £5 per person, by cheque to Broxbourne Arts Forum, 25, Lyttons Way, Hoddesdon EN11 or by Bank Transfer Sort Code 40-24-21 A/c No. 21377337 Please quote REF NO. when booking / sending cheque

Lea Valley u3a

Hoddesdon Market

u3aday
Wednesday, June 2nd

Lea Valley u3a

Re-launching the Lea Valley branch of the International U3A

From Archaeology to Craft, Music, Painting, Pilates, Theatre Trips, Walks and Pub Lunches

Group Events and Activities for the retired / those no longer in full-time

Indulge in your favourite subject or try something new.

Membership just £15 a year

Re-Opening July 17th!

Lowewood MUSEUM

Exhibition

Tankards Tales and Taverns

A collection of paintings, photographs and objects from the numerous inns, pubs and breweries of Broxbourne, Cheshunt, Hoddesdon and Waltham Cross, some dating back to the C15 and C16 and the days when the main road North out of London needed vital coaching stops and stabling.

Your Heritage. Your Museum.

HERTFORDSHIRE FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

4-10 JUNE 2021 #covidsafe

Live music returns with a seven-day celebration of superb classical music – 13 events to choose from

Your chance to see world-class musicians in and around Hertford including

PRINCIPAL ARTIST
CHLOË HANSLIP (VIOLIN)

HFoM FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA
(CONDUCTOR: TOM HAMMOND)

FEATURED LIVING COMPOSER
JUDITH WEIR CBE

FONTANELLA
ZRI
MATTHEW SHARP
FLORIAN MITREA
ALBION QUARTET
DANNY DRIVER



Online booking at:
www.hertsmusicfest.org.uk/performances-and-events-2621



In Search of the Sonnets

"So long as men can breathe and eyes can see
So long lives this and this gives life to thee"

William Shakespeare

A 6 week course
on Shakespeare's
Sonnets
Presented by Lee Rayner
Fridays
at 11.00 am

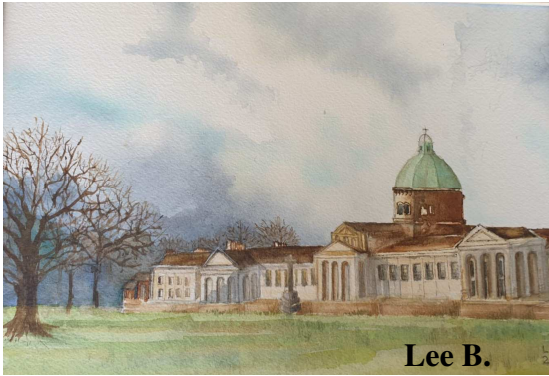


June 11th to July 16th

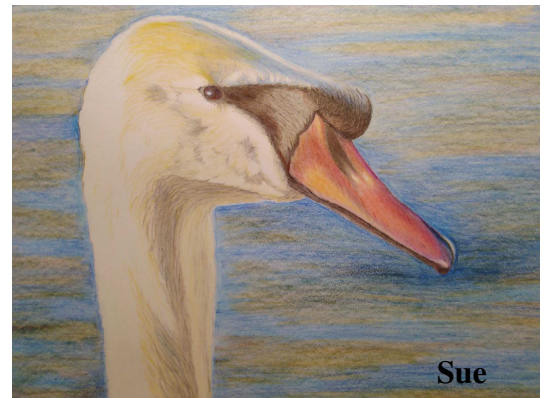
A Zoom Presentation

01992 465383 leerayner_arts@hotmail.com

BArts' Watercolour Classes



**Meet
Tuesdays
10.00 am
to 12noon**



BArts Watercolour Classes have been running from the inception of Broxbourne Arts Forum in 2000. Originally, they were organised by the BAC (Broxbourne Arts Council) and held in Lowewood. However, when Lowewood was handed over exclusively to the Museum we had to find a new home and moved to Bollescroft.

We now meet from 10am to 12noon on a Tuesday morning, with a 10 week session in the Autumn, 10 weeks in the Spring and a 6 week run after Easter in the Summer. One difference from all the other excellent art groups that are affiliated to BArts is that we have a professional tutor, Alison Showell, who sets us projects, demonstrates, advises and encourages us every week.

Things have, of course, been very different over last the 14 months. However, nothing ventured, nothing gained and we took to the internet with Alison providing reference photos, written instructions and step-by-step illustrations which I emailed or sent "snail mail" to our artists, including a link to an online demonstration!

Now we are hoping that Broxbourne Theatre Company, who are running Bollescroft, will be able to re-open the building in the autumn and we shall be able to meet again and receive hands-on instruction in watercolour painting and some mixed media work. **Our next session starts on 21st September and if you would like any further information then do call me on 01992 466627. Alison Gordon, BArts.**

If you would like *your* group to feature in the July edition of BArts' Broadsheet, the copy deadline will be June 25th. Other contributions, news, articles, poems, pictures etc also welcome.

Hoddesdon Camera Club Hoddesdon Camera Club was formed in 1982. The club has continued to grow over the years, we have about 35 members currently, maintaining an open door policy to photographers from beginners to talented enthusiasts.

The club meets every fortnight from September to July. Our programme includes competitions, talks, practical evenings and photo walks, all carried out in a friendly environment with discussion and tea or coffee. Members get a regular Newsletter and we have a **Facebook** page and a website, **hoddesdoncameraclub.co.uk**

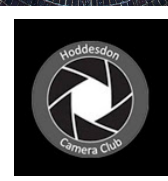
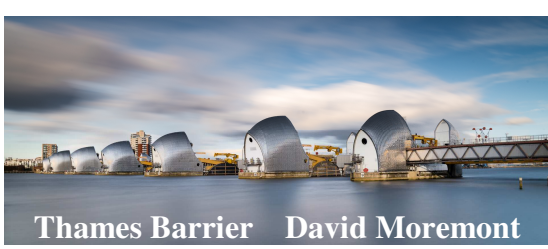
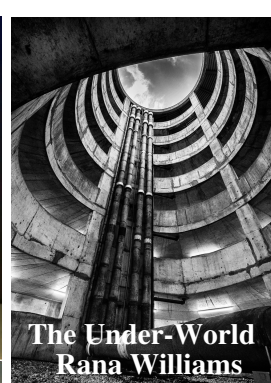
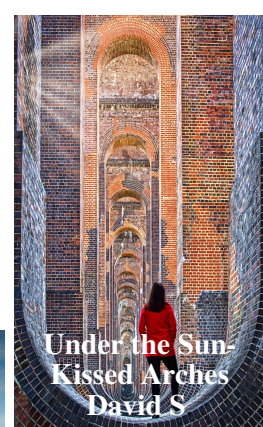
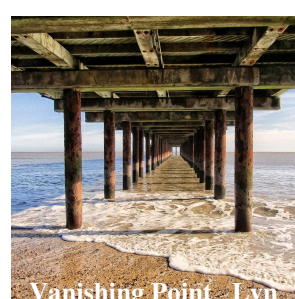
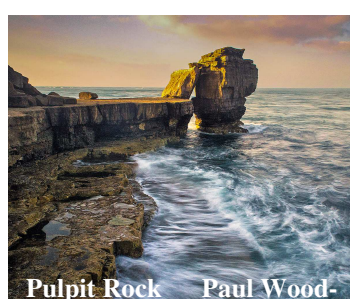
We enjoy several social events, a September get together to start the new season with cheese and wine, in December a Christmas social evening with members and invited guests and a Summer garden party, which includes our annual prize giving.

We have always enjoyed talks on a wide variety of subjects and they are popular and inspire our members, but of course lockdowns have presented challenges with how to maintain interest and viability. Early on, most members embraced Zoom and this has enabled us to maintain the majority of our programme.

With the exception of prints, our programme of competitions has also continued. We operate annual league competitions throughout the season, plus set subject competitions for Monochrome, Landscape, Coastal, Natural History and a Chairman's Trophy. All images that either win or score a maximum mark are displayed and voted on at our Image of the Year evening at Christmas.

We aim to be a very friendly and inclusive club, offering help and support to photographers of all levels and the social side is important. Hopefully, face to face meetings will start in September. We are looking forward to meeting up, but we would like to take advantage of the possibilities Zoom offers and include some Zoom meetings outside our programme, which would allow those who have moved away, or cannot come to meetings, to keep in contact as well as the opportunity to welcome speakers from far and wide.

Meanwhile, we arranged walks last summer and are planning to start them again when the weather improves. **If you are interested in joining, or finding out more about the club check out our website, email: hoddcamclub@aol.com, or contact the Secretary, Christine Holt on 01992 465575.**



Hoddesdon Camera Club



BArts' Groups That Are Now Open!!

Looking for signs of life on Group Members' websites and social media pages, it seems that the following groups are now *open*, with all necessary adjusted conditions to meet Covid regulations, or meeting via Zoom.

Jason Theatre School Broxbourne and Enfield

Lea Valley U3A

Archaeology, Astronomy, Art Appreciation, Chinese Brush Painting, Coffee and Short Walks, Creative Writing, Croquet, Exploring London, Family History, French, French Boules, General History, Intermediate Walks, Members On Their Own, Movement and Mobility Music Appreciation, Pilates, Pub Lunches, Reading For Pleasure Groups 1 and 2 Short Walks, Table Tennis

Mayhem Theatre Arts Hoddesdon

Step2Step Academy Cheshunt

The Stoller School of Dancing Albury and Cheshunt

The Vallé Academy Cheshunt

Various other groups are aiming for September or January 2022, depending on developments / regulations.



Fight for your summer!

Theatre Opportunities

The Globe—Live



June 5-Sept 25

A Midsummer Night's Dream

June 26-Oct 17 Romeo and Juliet

July 29-Oct 30 Twelfth Night

All the above will also be streamed for viewing at home on specific dates.

<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/seasons/summer-2021/>

The National Theatre



June 16-July 24

Under Milk Wood Live

Michael Sheen, Karl Johnson and Siân Phillips feature in the acting company breathing new life into Dylan Thomas' poetic masterpiece. Lyndsey Turner directs

Life in Stages is the National Theatre's brand-new interview series in **5 Episodes**, profiling some of the biggest names in British theatre—Rufus Norris, Olivia Coleman, Adrian Lester, Bill Nighy, Andrew Lincoln etc. Filmed on the empty Lyttelton stage, each episode features a pair of creatives reflecting on their theatre careers, and revealing the funny, personal and poignant stories behind everything from their earliest theatre memory to their professional highs. Free on the [National Theatre's YouTube Channel](#).

Sadler's Wells Theatre Live



Dec 7th 2021- Jan 30th 2022

Matthew Bourne - 'Nutcracker' Ballet!



It's a **Nutcracker** like no other, adored by critics and audiences alike.

Peacock Theatre Live

Birmingham Repertory Theatre

- Nov 20th 2021-Jan 2nd 2022

The Snowman The wintery wonderland of a boy and the snowman that comes to life



Somebody asked the question, so the answer has now been posted on Lowewood Museum's website

The Borough of Broxbourne is made up of four small towns —Broxbourne, Cheshunt, Hoddesdon and Waltham Cross—that originally were settlements along the course of the River Lea.

The river, its environment and wildlife have influenced many aspects of life in the area providing street names, trade names for local businesses *and* the names of some of the local inns and pubs, which date back at least to the C16. The name *Broxbourne* is a typical example of naming from the environment, from *brock*, an old Celtic word for badger and *born*, meaning small stream, a variation of the Scottish *burn*.



Swans are a common sight on the River Lea so these have become particularly significant and representative of the area. In the south of the borough, at Waltham Cross, the **Four Swans Inn** was established around 1600, although there are claims that it was as early as 1260.

Its gallows-style sign once spanned the main road as approached when travelling north. The inn was demolished some years ago, but the sign has been preserved and now spans the pedestrian area in front of Waltham Cross Shopping Pavilion. The four swans on the top of the sign have been re-made of durable fibre-glass, but the *original* swans, carved out of elm, can now be found in the reception area at Lowewood, the Borough Museum in Hoddesdon's High Street.

In Hoddesdon, facing the landmark clock-tower, is the **White Swan Inn**, a C16 building, once known as **The Swan** or **Old Swan**, but its current name established since 1756, when it could boast of stabling for sixty horses. The original inn sign, sadly, hasn't survived.



Do You Have a Favourite Local?



Lowewood Museum's re-opening exhibition on **July 17th** will focus on local pubs, colourful characters and tales from the past. What's special about *your* local? If *you* have an interesting tale to tell, please get in touch via Broadsheet editor and Lowewood trustee, Lee Rayner. **See contact details on page 1**

'Your Heritage-Your Museum'

You'll be hearing the above phrase a lot in the future. With the guidance of consultant, Sam Hunt, this will be a transformational project for Lowewood Museum and local people.

“The project focuses on community heritage in the Borough of Broxbourne, re-positioning the Museum as a vibrant community hub through a three -year programme of museum based and outreach activity that will enable the diverse range of communities, from Waltham Cross to Hoddesdon, to discover and celebrate their own local heritage. It will be taken forward through the development of a series of locally generated exhibitions and pop- up events, virtual trails and other events from which we aim to recruit a team of 'Community Curators'. They will help redefine the Museum galleries to tell local stories, past and present, replacing the dated static displays, with greater relevancy to today alongside an enhanced virtual presence and digital engagement.