

No.17.November 2021





Heritage Lottery Fund Award of £228,800 for Lowewood Museum!

Your Heritage, Your Museum for an exciting heritage project entitled

Your Heritage, Your Museum, which will work with diverse communities throughout the Borough of Broxbourne.

Made possible by money raised by National Lottery players, the three year project seeks to expand the Museum's engagement beyond its traditional audience by working with community groups throughout the Borough to capture their local stories, past and present.

The **'Your Heritage, Your Museum'** programme will recruit community curators through a series of outreach activities, pop up events and locally generated exhibitions, which will help redefine and refresh the Museum galleries, replacing the dated, static displays alongside an enhanced virtual presence and digital engagement.

This approach will draw upon Lowewood Museum's extensive photographic collection to reinforce local identity and sense of place. Audiences with whom the museum is keen to develop stronger relationships include younger people, socially-isolated, older adults and those with mental health needs, identified through work with NHS social prescribers. Other strands to the project include the development of the museum's gardens to enhance biodiversity and the redevelopment of the museum's website. Two staff will shortly be recruited to manage the programme. For details of these posts, please see Lowewood Museum's website *https://lowewoodmuseum.com*

1

In addition to the considerable financial support from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, there has been funding for the programme from Broxbourne Borough Council, Hertfordshire County Council locality budgets and the Love Hoddesdon Business Improvement District. The project is also endorsed by many community partners including Broxbourne Arts Forum, the CVS for Broxbourne and East Herts, the Broxbourne Alliance NHS Primary Care Network, the U3A and the Wormley and Turnford Big Local.





Lowewood Museum **Events and Exhibitions**

Tankards, Tales and Taverns. *Historic inns and pubs in the Borough of Broxbourne* **Ends November 6th**

Model Railway Day **October 28th**

Extensive model lay-out for railway enthusiasts of all ages

Family History Day with Lea Valley U3A November 13th

Help with starting your family history, plus an exhibition focused on ancestors in two world wars

The Borough at Christmas

Memories of Traditional Festivities in Broxbourne November—December 18th

2022

John Warner School 180 year Celebration

Your Heritage, Your Museum

Community contributions that have enriched life in the Borough of Broxbourne

Open Fridays and Saturdays 10.00 am to 4.30 pm

4 Galleries including pre 1600 artefacts, post 1600 historic costume, toys, art work and photographs

Café and Gift Shop

Children's Quiz Trail

Garden

Pottery Club

High St, Hoddesdon EN11 8BH 01992 445596

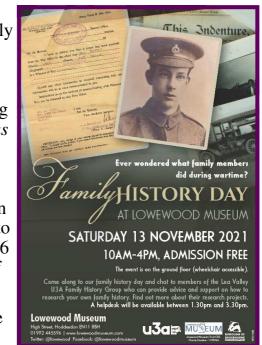


Lea Valley u3a Collaboration with Lowewood Museum

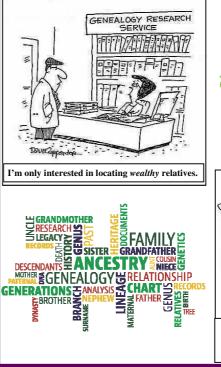
If you've ever fancied finding out more about your ancestors, then a session at Lowewood Museum may be just what you're looking for. The Lea Valley U3A Family History group, will be there all day on Saturday, November 13th to answer questions and help with 'on the spot' research.

The group has some particularly interesting examples of ancestors' war service featuring in a display, *plus* more extensive research on individual families that can be traced back to the C15 and C16 with the help of parish records.

The latest in the Who Do You Think You Are



TV series has demonstrated just how much *can* be found and when Judi Dench was recently featured, how very *exciting* it is to uncover some unsuspected facts!







their family tree



Venues, Values and Vision in the Borough?

The recent consultation on the future of the Spotlight recommended various measures to reduce the annual deficit, inevitably including increased charges and more 'commercial' activities that will affect *community* use of the facilities and encourage, or in some cases *oblige* local groups to seek viable alternative venues.

Sadly, this is 'easier said than done'. The U3A's monthly meetings may attract around 200 of their 400 to 800 memberships, but sports centres with the *capacity* don't necessarily have the appropriate lay-out or vital facilities.



Stanboroughs Conservative Club in Conduit Lane, Hoddesdon, has proved excellent for numbers up to 130.With a small bar and catering facilities, both Broxbourne and Lea Valley U3As have found it a pleasant place to meet, with very helpful staff. A recent Group Leaders' meeting with a substantial buffet lunch was particularly successful.

Stanboroughs Conservative Club

However, theatre schools and performing arts groups, especially where dance is involved, need a good size stage and proper lighting, sound and dressing rooms for their productions features which are mostly lacking in even the most up to date school halls. A large, flat 'space', such as a sports hall. needs a lot of expensive items to be *imported* before it can operate as a theatre and may have a high ceiling and echo to contend with, too.



Laura Trott Centre

(**Ed's Note** Try presenting 'A Christmas Carol' with the sound of sports going on all around and an *echo*, or a dance gala involving a hundred children and only two tiny dressing roomsand you'll understand!)

One or two groups have had to go *outside* the borough for a suitable venue—EHOS to *Harlow* and Cheshunt Dramatic Society to *Cuffley*!

The Borough of Broxbourne was identified as lacking in cultural achievements in a recent *national* survey (and is sometimes rudely described as *'the cultural desert'* at arts conferences!) It would be such a pity if the high endeavour and achievement of BArts' groups and other local community organisations were to be further depleted by purely financial considerations and short-sighted decisions.



"Once upon a time there was a Broxbourne Midsummer Festival that had 49 arts events in 4 weeks, featuring an international concert pianist, a professional opera, a Shakespeare matinée for schools.... a garden party, a whole wall of publicity at the Spotlight, an opening ceremony with the Mayor in attendance......"

The arts and culture have a wide, measurable impact on our economy, health, well-being, society and education." Quote from The Arts Council



"Oh yes it is! Oh, no it isn't!"

Broxbourne Theatre Company's

traditional pantomime, a regular feature at the Spotlight, long *before* the introduction of a professional production, has had to be cancelled for this year due to the continued closure of the Spotlight. Since Hertford Theatre is *also* closed for major re-design and extension, there is nowhere else suitable for a full-scale performance.

BTC's The Sound of Music, scheduled for May last year, is now planned for performance in 2022.



Cuffley Hall Theatre

Friday 7th Jan 2022 — 7:30pm Saturday 8th Jan 2022 — 2.30pm & 7:30pm

Box Office 07473 467827 ehesdramsoe@hotmail.co.uk www.eheshuntdramaticsociety.co.uk

Cheshunt Dramatic Society's traditional pantomime.. once a regular feature at Cheshunt's Wolsey Hall, this season will be <u>outside</u> the borough, as the Mayhem- managed Go Hub is currently out of use, pending crucial repairs by Broxbourne Borough services.



Hoddesdon Music Club— Flying the Flag for Classical Music..

Where *else* can you find

any in the borough?

Erika Baikoff, Soprano, with Gary Beecher, Piano Music by Purcell, Schubert, Poulenc, Strauss, Rachmaninov

Saturday, 27th November 5.00 pm and 7.30 pm United Reformed Church, Broxbourne



Email: hoddesdonmusic@aol.com

Bollescroft Re-Opens For Bookings!



Looking for a bright, attractive, medium-sized venue, centrally located with plenty of free parking?



Adjacent to the Spotlight Car-Park Available 7 days a week until 11.00 pm

Managed by Broxbourne Theatre Company (BTC) Ideal for community groups, keep fit, parties etc

www.BroxbourneTheatreCompany.co.uk See Hire Bollescroft page



Herfford Folk Dancing Group

welcomes new members



Meet Wednesday Evenings 8.00-10.00 pm

Hornsmill Estate Contact: Carol Reast 01992 465725

Broxbourne - the New Tinsel Town?



Boreham Wood, Bushey, Elstree, Leavesden—Hertfordshire is already quite well-off for film studios, but now a new multi-million venture is proposed for *Broxbourne* and, subject to planning permission, Sunset Studios will occupy a 91 acre site close to the M25 roundabout.

With Media Studies and Creative Arts a very popular choice at Herts Regional College and local secondary schools and

the six performing arts schools affiliated to BArts covering most aspects of *performance*, there could be new job opportunities for technical and talented youngsters, as well as for many others in the various essential trades associated with film–making and the vital supporting admin.

Lowewood Museum's project **Your Heritage, Your Museum** is currently involving Media students from HRC who have been filming dozens of live interviews with local people. (**Ed's Note.** The enthusiastic, enterprising young film crew I met have already formed themselves into an independent company, determined to make a career in the industry.)

At least two film companies have also been using locations in the borough recently, so we may be entering a new phase that enhances Broxbourne's 'cultural' profile and reputation.



Hoddesdon Christmas Fayre Light-Up Saturday, November 27th 10am to 6 pm

Sample a little **Christmas Spirit!**







Every Friday on Mayhem's Facebook CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF VELLOUS 'MAYHEN

GIVEWAY COUNTDOWN FOR

Mayhem Theatre Arts will be celebrating its 15th birthday in January

There will be a large, company birthday party at Stevenage Leisure Centre in January, which promises to be a very active affair.

Mayhem Director, Nicole May, recently tackled a really challenging activity when she did a sponsored walk to the summit of Mount Snowdon. She and partner, Paul, are proud to say that they reached the summit in 2 hrs 40 mins and raised £1,273, half which will go to Transitions UK, who support vulnerable young people, and half to Mayhem's bursary and scholarship placements for 2022.





Together by Dick Watts





Tea Time by Sue Greaves

Dreams by Liz Lower



LEA VALLEY

Friends by Maggie Gibbs

7

