



Keeping you in touch with BArts and the local Arts scene

## No. 22. April 2022

Edited by leerayner\_arts@hotmail.com 01992 465383



<https://www.thspotlightvenue.com/whats-on>  
01992 441946

### New Logo! New Décor! New Staff! New Website! New Horizons?

So.... Almost *exactly* two years after it closed, the Spotlight *finally* re-opened on Thursday, March 17th, with the first of its many planned tribute band shows 'That'll Be The Day'.

On Friday, March 18th, the Spotlight hosted the **Borough of Broxbourne Community Awards**. Invited guests enjoyed a 3-course meal, with free wine before the presentation of the awards, and a lively, local band, 'The Travelling Ding-Dangs', entertained throughout the rest of the evening.

Among the award winners was **Tony Cox, Secretary of Love Hoddesdon**, who has made an outstanding contribution to the community in Hoddesdon during the two years of the Covid restrictions, producing daily bulletins at the peak of the pandemic and co-ordinating information and advice for local businesses. The nine **Trustees of Lowewood Museum** also received an award for their intensive work in setting up the Trust and re-opening the museum.

On Sunday, March 20th, **Mayhem Theatre Arts** took over the Spotlight for one of its annual Drama and Musical Theatre shows '**From Page To Stage**', which showcased a cast of more than eighty young performers, aged from four to teens, in excerpts from some of the great musicals, including 42nd St, Fame, Matilda and Les Mis.



**Borough  
Award-Winner,  
Tony Cox, Secretary  
of Love Hoddesdon**

### What's On Next at the Spotlight ?

**March 31st** Calling Planet Earth  
**April 12th** The Wizard of Oz  
**April 13th** Pop Divas, Live  
**April 14th** Whirlwind Jimmy White  
**April 16th** The Drifters

### A sell-out performance for Mayhem!

Young performers  
rehearsing an extract  
from Matilda..  
'Revoluting Children'..





## What's *Different* at the Spotlight?

Much of the old, mellow brickwork has been boarded over and painted in minimalist, fashionable grey, which looks very bright and clean, if a little cold and lacking in atmosphere. There's a new, slightly *smaller* box office and some wall-mounted screens for digital, roll-over advertising, to replace much of the hard-copy posters and flyers.

An odd sofa or two, contemporary chairs, stools and a booth have replaced the old, fixed bench seating in the foyer. The Dinant room has been redecorated (in grey) and the auditorium now has a black ceiling and some new carpet at the edges of the seating area. There's a new projector screen up-stage, but the *main* cine-screen is still awaiting repair. A projector screen is available for the Bar and Dinant room.

One of the key, new members of staff has a 'theatre' background, so, perhaps, a better understanding of the realities of presenting live events and attracting audiences!

**NB In future, the café-bar will only be open when there's an event, so no dropping in for a coffee or snack during the day.**

Auditorium	Bar	Dinant
1200 standing	350 standing	60 standing
547 theatre		Flexible seating
300 at cabaret tables	200 at cabaret tables	50 at cabaret tables

**New Maximum Capacities for Different Kinds of Events**



## BArts' Events at the Spotlight

- not all of which appear in 'What's On', or on the Spotlight's new website.

**NB Ticket payment by card only. No cash transactions**

**April 6th My Kind of Music.** **Free** piano concert, 12.00 noon- 2.00 pm Café / Bar. A relaxing lunchtime break with pianist, Barbara Manning, and some best loved melodies from stage, screen and classics. **Pre-booking a table for lunch essential.**

**April 7th—9th Life of Riley.** Spotlight Theatre, Hoddesdon, 7.30pm Thursday, Friday, 3 pm Saturday 9th. Tickets £18, (£16 concessions.) A dark comedy by Alan Ayckbourn. Diagnosis of a terminal illness for George Riley inspires his friends to make his final days as interesting as possible. **Hoddesdon Players Box-Office:- 07747 034869. [tickets@hoddesdonplayers.org.uk](mailto:tickets@hoddesdonplayers.org.uk)**

**May 4th My Kind of Music.** **Free** piano concert, 12.00 noon-2.00 pm. Café / Bar. **Pre-booking a table for lunch essential.**

**May 4th—7th The Sound of Music.** Evenings 7.30 pm, Saturday Matinee 3.00 pm. Tickets £14 to £18. Concessions from £13. Broxbourne Theatre company's production of Rodger's and Hammerstein's ever-popular musical *finally* reaches the stage after two years of cancellations and disappointments! With every song a hit, you're in for a treat.

**May 6th and 27th Let's Do Lunch— 'Debunking History' 12.00 noon, Dinant Room, Tickets £15 , including 2-course lunch and a glass of wine.** Nero fiddled while Rome burned. . King Alfred burned the cakes... Christopher Columbus discovered America...??  
 "History is the version of past events that people have decided to agree upon!" Napoleon

**Box Office 01992 441946. <https://www.thespotlightvenue.com/contact-us>**



# Around BArts' Groups



## Hoddesdon Players



# Life of Riley

**April 7th-9th**

at The Spotlight

*A dark comedy by Alan Ayckbourn*

When George Riley's friends discover that he has just six months to live, they attempt to make his remaining days as interesting as possible.....

**Thurs and Fri Evenings 7.30 pm,  
Saturday Matinee 3.00 pm**

**Tickets £18 (£16)**

Hoddesdon Players Box-Office:- 07747 034869  
email [tickets@hoddesdonplayers.org.uk](mailto:tickets@hoddesdonplayers.org.uk)



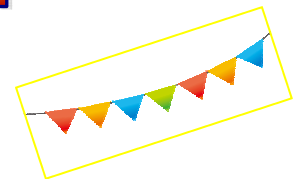
# Return to the Spotlight Celebration!

theatre • cinema • gallery • café bar

**Buffet, Live Music,  
John Astin's Videos.....**

**April 11th**  
**2.00pm**

Lea Valley  
u3a



## THREE VALLEYS MALE VOICE CHOIR



Hear them in Hoddesdon Town Centre  
on St. George's Day



**April 23rd at 3.15 pm**



## The Arts Society East Herts



**28 April 2022** Augustus John and  
Gwen John

**26 May 2022** Antiques Roadshow:  
Behind the Scenes and  
Great Discoveries

**30 June 2022** Three Great Families  
and their Gardens....  
Astors, Rothschilds and  
Sackville-Wests

**Meet at the Spotlight  
from 10.00 am**





**Junior SEWING BEE CLUB** EASTER HOLIDAYS!

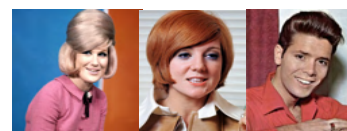
**Activities:**  
 BEGINNERS LESSON - SEWING BY HAND  
 CREATE 3 ITEMS TO TAKE HOME  
 HAVE FUN LEARNING NEW SKILLS AND MAKING NEW FRIENDS  
 FOR AGES 7-12YRS

9.30AM - 2.30PM  
 Wed 6TH April  
 at MAYHEM,  
 (BREWERY RD, HODDESDON)  
 £22 PER CHILD

MAYHEM THEATRE ARTS



**April 21st**  
 at the Spotlight  
 from 10.00 am



**“Solo Singers of the Swinging Sixties**  
*Speaker Geoff Bowden”*



**April 28th**  
 Laura Trott Centre  
 from 1.30 pm



**“William— Butler to the Royals and Film Stars.”**  
*by William French*  
 Service on the Royal Yacht and to stars such as  
 Nicole Kidman and Robert Redford .....

## Hoddesdon Music Club

**Saturday 23rd**  
**April 2022**  
**7:30pm**



**Sarah-Jane Bradley (viola),**  
**John Lenehan (piano)**

### Programme of English Music

Elgar: Chanson de matin  
 Frank Bridge: Pensiero, Allegro Appassionato  
 Rebecca Clarke: Sonata  
 Bliss: Pastoral  
 Vaughan Williams: Romance

Email: [hoddesdonmusic@aol.com](mailto:hoddesdonmusic@aol.com)  
 Telephone: 01992 442025 (John Morton - Chairman)  
 or 01992 442187 (Laurence Cole - Secretary)

## Something To Talk About!



**Lea Valley Discussion Group**  
 Hoddesdon Methodist Church at 8pm  
**April 11, May 16, 30, June 13, 27**

current affairs / items of special interest / Arts /  
 Philosophy/ Social History / Science etc

### Lea Valley U3A

Monthly meetings at the Spotlight 2.00 pm  
**May 9th** Christine Walkden *“The Making of the TV Series Glorious Gardens from Above”*  
**June 13th** *“Much Ado About Something”* the ups and downs of family life.  
**August 8th** *“Wallis Simpson and the Abdication Crisis”* – the Year of the Three Kings.  
**Sept 12th** *“Ooh, Matron”* Carry On films



### Friends of Lowewood

**April 19th** Hertfordshire and the Slave Trade



**St. George's Day Festival and Parade**

**Saturday 23 April**  
 Hoddesdon Town, 10am - 5pm

Arena entertainments programme from 10am  
 Food and charity stalls  
 Children's Funfair  
 Street Entertainers  
 Children's themed parade (from Lowewood Museum) at 1pm

**SOMETHING FOR ALL THE FAMILY!**

www.lovehoddesdon.co.uk  
 @lovehoddesdon

The St. George's Day Parade starts from Lowewood Museum Garden

## Reminder!

**BArts' Annual Subscriptions**  
 were due on **April 1st.**

**New Groups, Sponsors, Patrons and Friends** would be *very* welcome!



A Platinum Jubilee Event



# BArts' Competition



## Make *Your* Contribution to History!

Major events in history are usually recorded 'officially' to put a country and its leaders in an appropriately *favourable* perspective, but the ordinary people who live through them may have a very different view. "*History is a set of lies that people have agreed upon,*" **Napoleon.**

*Britain entered the second Elizabethan age, when Elizabeth Windsor became Queen in 1952.. A period of rapid and dramatic changes, not always for the better, each decade acquired a special 'flavour' and identity that helped to shape the lives of different generations .....*

Letters, diaries, poetry, pictures and all kinds of memorabilia may cover other events, too, and present a more rounded view of an era that becomes increasingly significant over time, but such items from ordinary people are often poorly represented in collections.

### What memories do you have?

*The coronation, jubilees, home, school, family, work, sport, holidays, special events, music, fashion, crazes, catastrophes....?*

What can *you* remember of the years from 1952? Some items of food were still *rationed* then....a loaf of bread was 4d, wages for a man averaged at £8 a week and just £4 for females ....TV was a novelty in black and white.

*Writing / Art Competition*

*Share Your Memories in*

1. A short piece of Prose or Poetry
2. A Painting / Drawing

In the 1960s 'Tiny Tears' dolls were all the rage, people were still living in pre-fabs, there was a shortage of teachers, England won the World Cup... a man first walked on the moon... Music and fashion could somehow encapsulate the mood of a time... Remember Rock and Roll, Teddy boys, the Twist, mini-skirts, maxi-skirts, flower-power and platform soles?

**£50 First Prize in each category!**  
**Closing date April 25th**

Call: 01992 465383 /466627,  
E-Mail: [info@broxbournearts.org.uk](mailto:info@broxbournearts.org.uk)  
for an entry form

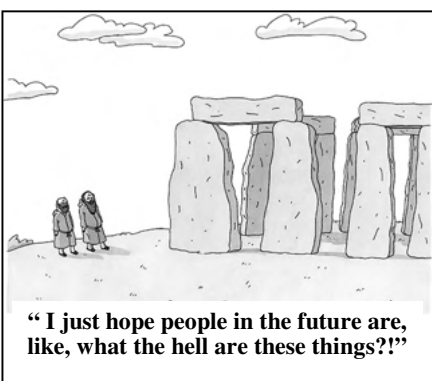
It is intended that entries for the 'Elizabethan Echoes' competition will form part of exhibitions at the borough's Lowewood Museum / and Hoddesdon Parish Church and may be added to the museum's permanent archives later.



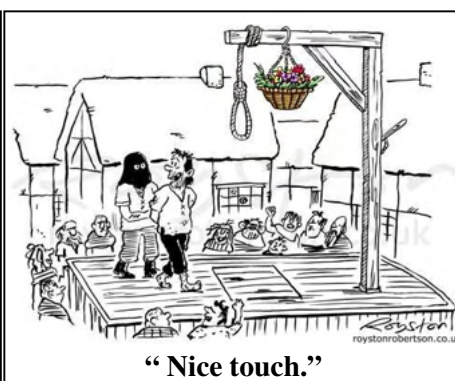
## May 6th and 27th BArts' Let's Do Lunch— 'Debunking History'

12.00 noon, Dinant Room,  
the Spotlight. Tickets £15,  
including 2-course lunch  
and a glass of wine. 01992 441946.

Nero fiddled while Rome burned.....King Alfred burned the cakes...Christopher Columbus discovered America...??



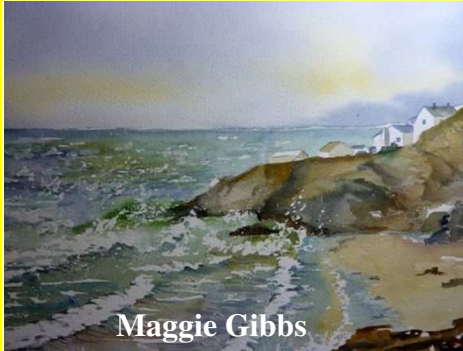
"I just hope people in the future are, like, what the hell are these things?!"



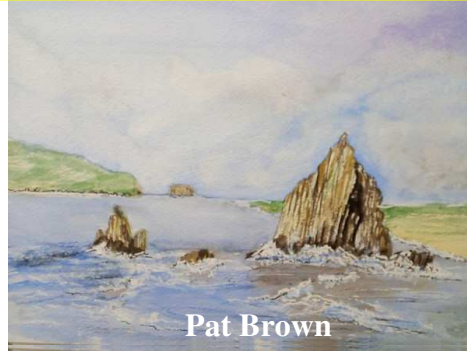
"Nice touch."



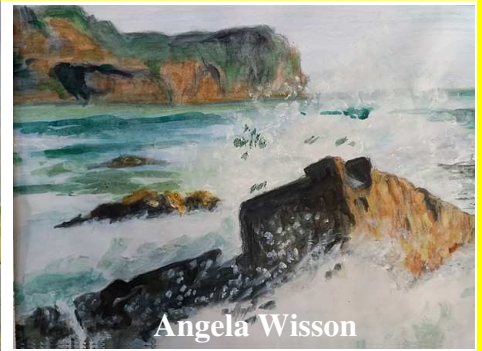




Maggie Gibbs

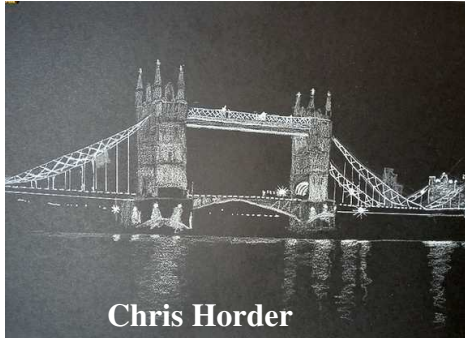


Pat Brown

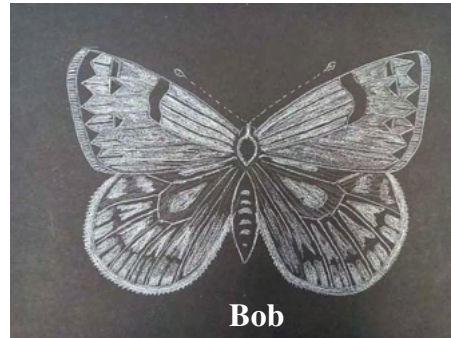


Angela Wisson

## “Waves”



Chris Horder



Bob



Barbara

## “ White on Black”



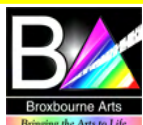
D'Arcy Sallion



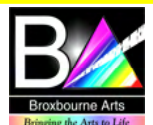
D'Arcy Sallion graduated from Middlesex University with a BA Hons in Visual Communications in London, UK in 1994. He is currently a member of **Hazelwood Art Group** and has exhibited with BArts and at Lowewood Museum.



Three-dimensional paintings are a signature style for D'Arcy. His paintings are made with many layers of stylo-foam, PVA glue, joint compound and re-cycled plastic bottles, creating a sculpture on canvas and landscapes from the Devon coast to the Caribbean.



**BArts currently has five affiliated art groups, who meet at various venues within the Borough of Broxbourne.**



**BArts' Watercolour Classes** Tuesday mornings at Bollescroft  
**Burford Art Group**, Wednesday mornings, Jackson Hall, Hoddesdon  
**Hazelwood Art Group**, Tuesdays, St. Catherine's School, Hoddesdon  
**Lea Valley Art Society** Friday afternoons, Scout Hut Wormley  
**Lowewood Art Group** Wednesday afternoons, Scout Hut, Wormley

**Artists are reminded that Lowewood Museum may be interested in displaying and selling approved *local* scenes in the gift shop.**





**Open Fridays and Saturdays  
10.00 am to 4.00 pm.  
Café and Gift Shop**

**The Borough of Broxbourne  
Community Awards**

Eight of the nine Lowewood Museum Trustees attended the Awards evening to receive an award for their work in setting up the Lowewood Museum Trust and organising the re-opening of the museum in July 2021, which was a delayed date because of Covid.



Included in this photograph are Trustees David Dent-**Chair**, Steve Whitlam-**Secretary** (also a borough officer) Pete Dockar-**Treasurer**, Claire Haggerty, Stephen Harris (member of the Love Hoddesdon team) Bryan Hewitt, Siobhan Monaghan (local councillor ) and Lee Rayner for BArts.



**Current Exhibition until April 9th  
Voices of the Voluntary Sector .**

The history and achievements of the community and voluntary sector in Broxbourne over the past 50 years.

**April 8th Fossil Fun day with Rockwatch.** Activities for children include,- Make your own plaster fossil, Dino trail around the museum Making jurassic scenes, Fossil handling. **All materials provided.**



**April 23rd St. George's Day Exhibition.**

Was St. George a real person, or just a legend? Whoever he was, he has become famous all over the world.

**The Love Hoddesdon Parade** starts from Lowewood

**April— Mid-June**

**Jubilees and Coronations.** A look back at Royal Jubilees and Coronations and how local people celebrated, to link with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee 1952-2022



**Saturday 2nd July,  
Lowewood Museum's  
40th Birthday Celebrations.**

Garden Party, Exhibition, Music, Afternoon Tea.

**Lowewood Museum Garden is adjacent  
to the approach to the Spotlight.**

