



Keeping you in touch with BArts and the local Arts scene

No. 23. May 2022

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Have you renewed your BArts' Subscription?!!

If you have received this Broadsheet, it is because you are: an *individual* member of BArts, part of an *affiliated group*, or a *known* supporter of our events.....Although we are a registered charity and receive some modest financial support from the Borough of Broxbourne (in the form of a hall-hire allowance) we would cease to exist without our sponsors and regular subscribers and there would be very little *co-ordinated* representation of Arts interests within the borough. Perhaps you could *consider* becoming a Friend of BArts? Or, if you've enjoyed one of our themed lunches, free piano concerts, art exhibitions, or open-air Shakespeare at the Spotlight *spread the word* and be our *ambassador!*

The True Value of the Arts is Under-Appreciated.

These Arts Council quotes make some key points

- **“Art and culture contributes £10.6 billion to the UK economy** - the UK has a creative economy worth £27bn and culture brings £850m to UK, through tourism, each year.
- **Arts and culture help tackle social injustice** - theatres, museums, galleries and libraries are the beating heart of our towns and cities. Not only do they bring prosperity, they bring communities together and make life worth living.
- **Our creative industries are successful throughout the world** - our leading cultural institutions are a calling card worldwide and have important trading links from the US or Germany to China and South Korea. Last year our National Portfolio Organisations earned £57m abroad.”

The economic benefits are incidental, however, to the main influence that the Arts can have on people's lives—their awareness and appreciation of beauty, creativity and the qualities of sensitivity, perception and empathy.....

'Food For Thought' Quotes

- *Creative work is a gift to the world and every being in it.*
- *The man that hath no music in himself, nor is not moved with concord of sweet sounds, is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils. The motions of his spirit are dull as night, and his affections dark as Erebus. Let no such man be trusted.*
- *Art is not what you see, but what you make others see.*
- *Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.”*
- *The Arts, at best, are only a shadow of Paradise.*

The Arts are often under-funded by local authorities, or cut in schools and colleges, thought of as merely a luxury 'extra', but we abandon them at our peril. A nation of 'philistines'* becomes soul-less and destructive.

“No arts; no letters; no society; and which is worst of all, continual fear, and danger of violent death: and the life of man, solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short.”

Thomas Hobbes C16

* **Philistine**— a person who is hostile or indifferent to culture and the arts





BArts' Summer Events

Don't Forget - We're Back at the Spotlight!

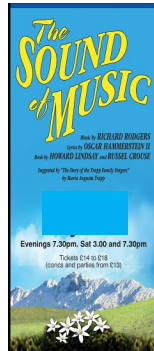


May 4th, June 1st, July 6th, Aug 3rd. My Kind of Music.
Free concert, with pianist, Barbara Manning. 12.00 noon- 2.00 pm, Café / Bar. **The Spotlight** Light classics, 'evergreens', the great American Songbook, ...hit numbers from stage and screen.. music for every taste. **Advance table booking essential.**



May 4th—7th The Sound of Music.
 Evenings 7.30 pm, Saturday Matinee 3.00 pm. Tickets £14 to £18. Concessions from £13. **The Spotlight**

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.



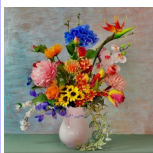
May 6th and 27th
Let's Do Lunch 'Debunking History'
 12.00 noon, Dinant Room, NB **The Spotlight**. Tickets £15, including 2-course lunch and a glass of wine. Nero fiddled while Rome burned. King Alfred burned the cakes. Christopher Columbus discovered America...?? "History is the version of past events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



May 9th Lea Valley u3a
'Glorious Gardens From Above'

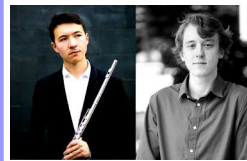
The making of the award-winning, 15-part BBC television series, presented by Christine Walkden.

The first of the John Astin special legacy talks. Main meeting from 1.00pm. Speaker at 2.00 pm. **The Spotlight**



May 11th Hoddesdon Floral Art Society 'Bring and Buy' 2.00—4.00 pm, Jackson Hall

May 19th Broxbourne u3a. AGM plus Moroccan Blues', talk by Elizabeth Gowing. Stories behind the blue pigment used for the fishing boats and doorways of photogenic Essaouira on the Moroccan coast, and the Majorelle Blue developed and patented by French artist Jacques Majorelle in Marrakech in the 1920s. From 10.00 am to 12.00 . **The Spotlight**



May 21st
Hoddesdon Music Club.
Daniel Shao, flute,
Joseph Havlat piano.
 7.45 pm, United Reformed

Church Broxbourne. Non-members' £14
 01992 464000, hoddesdon music@aol.com
 Flautist Daniel Shao, a category finalist in BBC Young Musician 2014, is accompanied by Australian pianist Joseph Havlat. Music by Bach, Fauré, Poulenc .

May 26th Cheshunt u3a
'A Schoolgirl's War'
 talk by **Mary Smith**
 Meeting from 1.30 pm ,
 Speaker 2.45 pm. **Laura Trott Centre**



June 8th Floral Demonstration,
Hoddesdon Floral Art Society. 2.00—4.00 pm, Jackson Hall

June 10th
Let's Do Lunch
'Two Elizabeths'

A Platinum Jubilee Event, looking at the lives of two long-reigning Queens and comparing two ages of exploration and discovery. 12.00 noon, Dinant Room. NB **The Spotlight** Tickets £15, including 2-course lunch and a glass of wine.



June 13th Lea Valley u3a
'Much Ado About Something'
A light-hearted look at the ups and downs of family life. Main meeting from 1.00 pm. Talk at 2.00 pm. **The Spotlight**



June 16th Broxbourne u3a
The Work of the Herts and Beds Blood Bikes
 From 10.00 am to 12.00 .
The Spotlight



June 23rd Cheshunt u3a
The Importance of Lasting Attorney.
 Meeting from 1.30 pm , Speaker 2.45 pm.
Laura Trott Centre

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



Broxbourne Adult Leisure Learning

A flourishing BArts' group that was originally a local branch of the WEA, but decided to 'go it alone' a couple of years ago when tutors' fees and obligatory paper-work increased to an unacceptable level.

The lively 8-10 week courses usually take place at Broxbourne Parish Centre on Thursday mornings during term time and cover a variety of subjects—Films, History, Literature, Music, Scandals...with power point presentations and film clips etc . The next course on '**How We Became A TV Nation**' will be via Zoom, however, due to unforeseen circumstances for the tutor



Future Plans



Autumn Term 2022

Film Costume and Music. - Christopher Budd

Thursdays 22nd Sept - 1st Dec. Half term 27th Oct

10.30 for prompt 10.40/45 start.

Spring Term 2023

Pot Pourri - Richard Thomas

Thursdays 26th Jan—23rd March. Half term 16 th Feb

10.30 for. 10.45 start



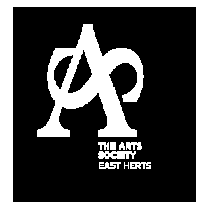
Lea Valley Art Society has produced a special portrait of the Queen in honour of her Platinum Jubilee, which will be celebrated from June 2nd to 4th. The portrait is a group effort, rather than being painted by just one person, and will be on display at Hoddeson Parish Church, Paul's Lane, which is opposite to Morrison's car park



The Arts Society East Herts

May 26th Antiques Road Show:

Behind the Scenes and Great Discoveries
by Marc Allum



June 30th Three Great Families and Their Gardens —

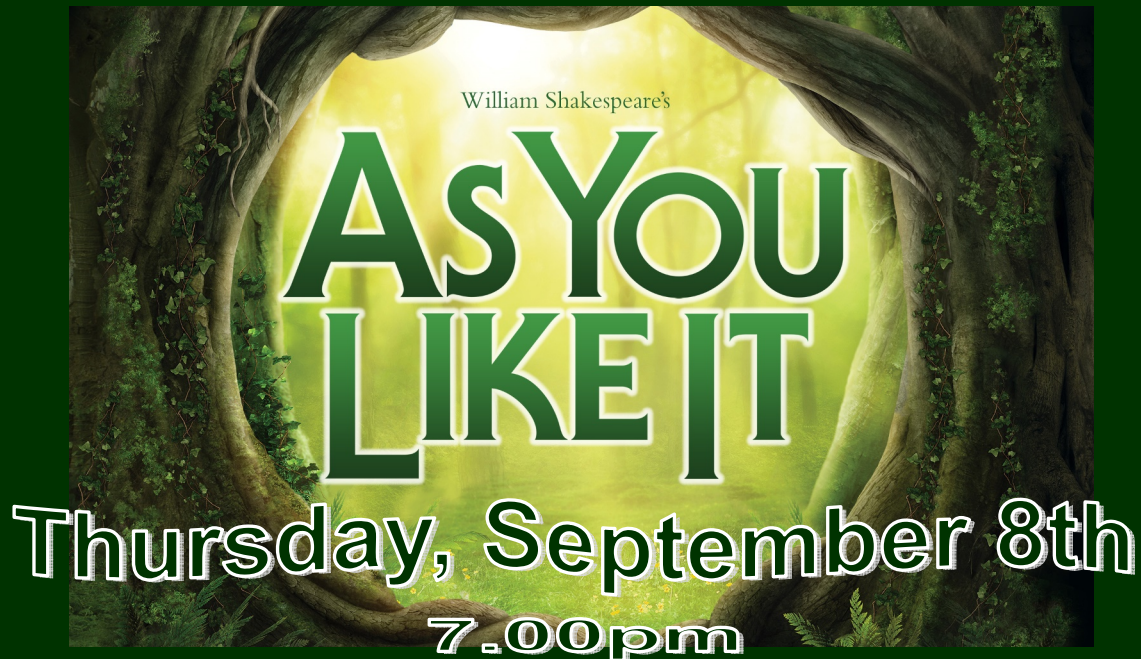
the Astors, Rothschilds, and Sackville-Wests by Caroline Rayman



Both lectures will be at The Spotlight.

Coffee from 10.10 am, Speaker at 10.30 am

**AND BROXBOURNE ARTS FORUM
PRESENT**



The Spotlight Gardens, Hoddesdon

Picnics from 6.00pm

*NB All drinks must be purchased
from the bar.*

**The production continues in all
but the very worst weather.**



The Lord Chamberlain's Men – with a history stretching back to William Shakespeare himself – invite you to join them for this sparkling comedy, presented as Shakespeare first saw it performed – in the open air, by an all male cast, with Elizabethan costumes, music and dance.

*'As You Like It' is a pastoral comedy of 'couples',
with some dark undertones—"Love is merely a madness!"*

**Tickets: Adults £18, Under 16 and Students £10,
Family 4 £50**

Bookings: 01992 441946

<https://www.thspotlightvenue.com/contact-us>



**Broxbourne u3a Guitar Group
Photo by Denis O'Shea**

Broxbourne celebrated returning to the Spotlight for their monthly meetings on March 24th with a special buffet and some entertainment, which included a comedy and magic presentation, saxophonist Paula Borrell and their own guitar group. More than 300 members attended—delighted to be meeting people that they hadn't seen for 2 years!

Cheshunt's regular meeting venue, the Laura Trott Centre, re-opened several months before the Spotlight, which had some major building work in progress and delays due to Covid, so the branch has been able to maintain its membership levels.



**Cheshunt u3a Book Club
enjoying a social occasion**

Lea Valley also enjoyed a buffet lunch and music provided by pianist, Barbara Manning, when they returned to the Spotlight on April 11th, after a break of two years.

Members were entertained by several DVDs made by John Astin, former teacher at Broxbourne School, who died



**Barbara Manning played
for Lea Valley u3a**

recently and left a legacy to the Lea Valley u3a, which will help to fund special guest speakers and events.

New Chair, Glynis Evans, introduced herself to members who hadn't had a chance to meet her before.

The range of activities available within the three local u3as is absolutely amazing and includes: Antiques, Archaeology, Art and Crafts, Astronomy, Badminton, Bird Watching, Bridge, Country Dancing, Creative Writing, Croquet, Cycling, Exploring London, Family History, French, Golf, Guitar, Heritage, History, Italian, Jazz Appreciation, Keep Fit, Line Dancing, Listening to Music, Members On Their Own, Movement and Mobility, Photography, Pilates, Pub Lunches, Retail Therapy, Sailing, Shakespeare, Singing, Spanish, Stamp Collecting, Table Tennis, Theatre Visits, Walking, Wine Appreciation, Wood Turning, Zumba..... **and more.....**

Membership of a u3a is open to anyone no longer in full-time employment, with annual subscriptions around £15 . All groups are focused for interest and *pleasure*, not academic achievement. There is so much on offer that you could be pleasantly occupied every day of the week, in the company of like-minded people.

Take a look at the branch websites:

Broxbourne <https://u3asites.org.uk/broxbourne/home>

Cheshunt <https://u3asites.org.uk/cheshunt/home>

Lea Valley lvu3a.org.uk

Museum Matters Publicity



Getting adequate publicity for any organisation with a modest budget has proved increasingly difficult over the last few years. At one time, local shops were quite happy to take a poster and a few strategically placed around an area could catch the eye. Libraries once could offer a whole wall for a display and Borough outlets would accept posters and flyers. Now, most of these opportunities have disappeared and even the recently re-opened Spotlight has abolished posters in the café / bar and reduced them to a minimum in the foyer.

Social media may be effective for those 'in the know' to tell their friends, but not so good for making an impact on 'strangers'. However, thanks to Museum Trustees, Stephen Harris (also involved with Love Hoddesdon) and Bryan Hewitt, local market days in Hoddesdon / Waltham Cross have provided an opportunity for some 'face to face' marketing of museum events and informing the public in general about the museum's assets and special exhibitions.

Pictured above are some volunteers from Marie Curie (Jan, Jean, Ann and Elaine) who joined Master Henry Hoddas to promote our museum and in particular the forthcoming **Jubileations and Coronations** exhibition, **April 30th—June 18th**



Celebrating St. George's Day

The museum played an active part in Hoddesdon's St. George's Day celebrations on April 23rd, with a small display about St. George and some creative activities for children, which included making flags and dragon headdresses. Some of the children then took part in the parade, which assembled in the gardens of Lowewood and marched into the town centre, led by a band.



**Keep Calm
and
Slay Dragons**

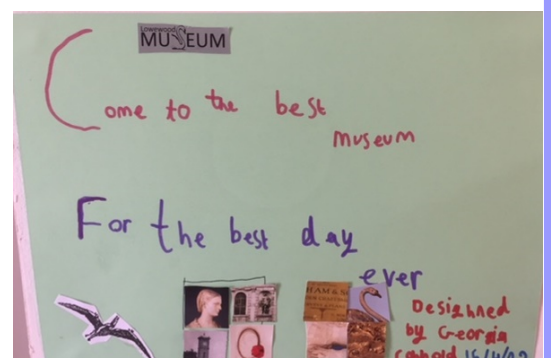
Making A Good Impression!

The visitors' comments book at the museum is full of encouraging, appreciative remarks, particularly from first-time visitors who are pleasantly surprised at the range of interesting exhibits. Trustees were really pleased with the one below R from a child, which suggests that what's on offer *is* hitting the mark!



The AGM will be followed by a talk by **Sue Garside—**
**'William and Sarah Ellis
of Rosehill**

The Reverend William Ellis was a missionary and botanist who travelled extensively and wrote about his experiences, His wife, Sarah, was also an author.





Clovelly, Joan Facey



Fowey, Chris Horder

LEA VALLEY
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SOCIETY

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Marina View, Maggie Gibbs



Clovelly, Joan Facey



Spanish Doorway, Val Gudge

Thoughts of Going on Holiday

