



Keeping you in touch with BArts and the local Arts scene

No.26.August 2022

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BArts' 22nd A.G.M. July 19th

Attending an AGM is something that most people *avoid* if they can, especially if the weather is warm and sunny, or there is a more attractive alternative, so full marks to the *four* members who turned up, in addition to the Trustees!

Chairman Malcolm Gordon's report acknowledged gratitude for the continuing support and encouragement of our members, particularly over the past two years, and for the financial contributions of The Borough of Broxbourne (in the form of a hall hire allowance) a Herts County Council grant, facilitated by Councillor Steve Wortley, and the provision of a rent-free garage for storage by B3 Living.

The re-opening of the Spotlight and the subsequent teething troubles had affected BArts' ability to offer the same standard of presentations as before Covid, but the new staff were very helpful in trying to find solutions and accommodate our needs. The loss of regular catering facilities, however, was proving to be a significant deterrent to many former customers.

At a time when talk of 'levelling up' is much in the news, the Arts community of Broxbourne has had to adjust to the loss of its one and only art 'gallery' in the Spotlight bar, which has been the focus for BArts' Exhibitions and the work of local artists for twenty years. The word 'Gallery' has now been removed from the new Spotlight signage. Presumably, the loss of a modest 10% commission on any picture sales was deemed insignificant, but the loss of 'image' for the Borough, as an area that values and encourages the arts is incalculable.

Treasurer, John Elson, reported that BArts had ended the year with a modest surplus, due to the successful BArts' Buffets via Zoom, BArts' Watercolour classes and reduced quantities of printed publicity.

The following were proposed, seconded and elected as Trustees and Committee Executives .
Chairman - Malcolm Gordon **Treasurer** - John Elson **Events Director** - Lee Rayner ,
Kathi Broad, Rita Hutchinson and Hilary Marsh. The Chairman noted that there were no nominations for Secretary or Membership Secretary.

The valuable contribution of co-opted members Alison Gordon and Sue Elson in relation to the Let's Do Lunch, Watercolour classes and printed programme preparation was acknowledged.

The meeting concluded with a Cheese and Wine Buffet and further informal discussion.

NB. As the live meeting did not achieve the required quorum (10% of the membership) to ratify decisions, there will be a brief Zoom meeting on Tuesday 9th August at 7.30pm for this purpose. Details will be sent to all members.



Let's Do Lunch!

20th Birthday!

Way back in 2002, just a couple of years after BArts was founded, our team was brainstorming ideas for events that wouldn't cost a lot to present, but might have a fairly wide appeal and be something just a little bit *different*. The formula we came up with was Food, Drink, Music and Humour. The title was 'tongue in cheek', because it's what people often *say* when they have no serious intention to actually *do* it! We *meant* it and have now presented more than 150 different titles performed to more than 10,000 people (with repeats). As you can see, we haven't run out of ideas....yet! Next year's titles are already planned and we look forward to entertaining you.

National Treasures looks at the objects, places and people that the nation values and *loves*; **Pianissimo** focuses on the history and versatility of the piano, with *live* music; **Rainbow Rebels** dips into the lives and literature of some of the boldest, controversial writers of the C20; **Mists of Time** wallows in a bit of unashamed nostalgia for the Britain we used to know, before we became an American colony; **Celebrity Cause** examines why so many people now want their 3 minutes of fame..... More details to follow.....

NB The Spotlight will become cash free from September 1st

National Treasures
September 16th

Pianissimo!
November 23rd

Rainbow Rebels
January 20th

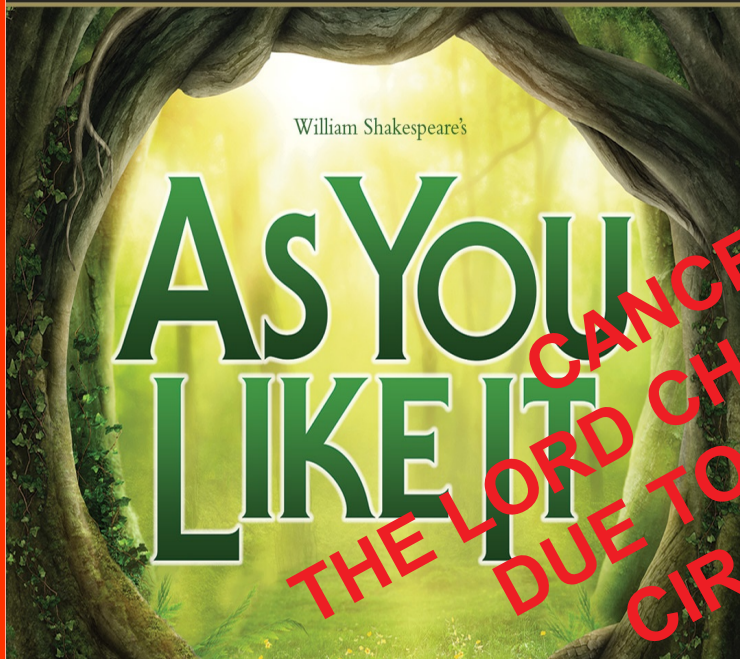
Mists of Time
March 15th

Celebrity Cause!
May 19th

Town and Country
June 14th

Movers and Shakers
July 21st

Plans for Autumn 2022 to Summer 2023



the Spotlight Gardens

The production continues in all but the very worst weather

8th September 2022 at 7.00pm

Box Office: 01992 441946 or

www.thespotlightvenue.com

Adults £18, Family 4 £50, Students/Under 16 £10

Gardens open for picnics from 6.00 pm

NB All drinks must be purchased from the bar

What's It All About...?

The main theme of **As You Like It** is Love, which appears in many guises, but it doesn't run smoothly for any of the couples, whether they are duke or mere country bumpkins.

There's jealousy between brothers, disguises, misunderstandings and an escape from the restrictions of the duchy court to the freedom of rural country life. Nothing is quite as it seems, however, but eventually the problems appear to be resolved and the story ends happily with weddings.

Beneath the surface of this favourite comedy, there is a hint of cynicism that makes us question some of our *own* attitudes. You may be surprised to recognise some of the words!

*"All the world's a stage
And all the men and women merely players;
They have their exits and their entrances;
And one man in his time plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages."*

"The fool doth think he is wise, but the wise man knows himself to be a fool."

"Love is merely a madness..."

"Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere folly."



The Arts Society East Herts
Monthly lectures at the Spotlight at 10.30 am

Sept 29th Mind the Gap
Graphic and Poster design on the London Underground.

Oct 27th Resurgam - The Music of St Paul's Cathedral.

Nov 24th A Cornucopia of Christmas



SPECIAL INTEREST DAY
In the Dinant room at the Spotlight

November 3rd
10.30 am to 3.00 pm



*The Execution of Emperor Maximilian 1868
Eduard Manet*

Can Art Change the World?

Art with something to say ... Kandinsky (1911)
"Every work of art is the child of its time."

Lecturer, Val Woodgate will concentrate on Artists as varied as Goya, Manet, Chagall, Picasso, Grayson Perry, Ai Weiwei and many others in 3 special sessions.

Tickets £30, with lunch,
available from the Arts Society

info@theartsocietyeastherts.org.uk



Lea Valley u3a learn, laugh, live 30th Birthday!

Garden Party Celebrations on Monday, July 11th

A very hot afternoon, where informality was the keynote. An hour of piano music in the bar preceded the on-stage entertainment which Chair, Glynis Evans, R, introduced. Some light-hearted verse was followed by a music duo and there were two quizzes on offer—**Who Do You Think They Are?** - baby photographs of the committee to pair with their adult images and a match the year to the event **History Quiz**.



Luscious cakes were provided by Crystal Catering, a highly recommended local company. We've sampled their buffet menu, too, and it's impressively *ample* and *varied*.

The Spotlight's air-conditioning in the auditorium was particularly welcome, but many people took advantage of the Spotlight gardens with its new furniture on the terrace

[Broxbourne U3A broxbourneu3a.org.uk](http://broxbourneu3a.org.uk)

Aug 18th The Royal Albert Hall - Entertaining the nation for 150 years *Speaker: David Drury*

Sep 15th Good Morning Lords & Ladies.

Speakers: Barry & Gill Goodman

Oct 20th An Antarctic Odyssey

Speaker: Emeritus Professor Dr Bill Block

[Cheshunt U3A cheshuntu3a.org.uk](http://cheshuntu3a.org.uk)

Aug 25th Witches and Highwaymen of Hertfordshire. *Speaker: Rev. John Merrill.,*

Sept 22nd.Digital Forensics- WHO's watching you. *Speaker: Chris Truman*

Oct 27th.From Monorail in 1825 to Motor rail in 2021. *Speaker: Ray Schofield*



[Lea Valley U3A lvu3a.org.uk](http://lvu3a.org.uk)

August 8th Wallis Simpson and the Abdication Crisis of 1936 – The Year of The Three Kings!:- *Speaker: Roy Smart*

September 12th Ooh Matron! A History of the 'Carry On' Films

Speaker: Steve Dimmer

October 10th Francis Albert Sinatra – 'Old Blue Eyes *Speaker: Howard Slater*

If you aren't already a member of the U3A, you can pay £2 and attend a meeting as a guest. See websites for more details



Something for the youngsters!

The Stoller School
of Dancing at
Goff's Churchgate
Academy
07930 667006



Summer
School

August
8th—12th

10.00 am to
4.00 pm

Vallé Academy
SUMMER CAMPS '22
IN CHESHUNT

Fairy Academy 9.45-10.15am
For 18 months to 2 years
Have fun dancing with a parent or carer

Mini Pop 10.30-11.15am
For 3-4 years
Learning dances to the latest movie and pop songs

Monday 1st August
Monday 8th August
Monday 15th August
Monday 22nd August

Book NOW

Vallé Academy
SUMMER CAMPS '22
IN CHESHUNT

Week 1
Monday 1st - Thursday 4th August
THE WIZARD OF OZ

Week 2
Monday 22nd - Thursday 25th August
Bugsy Malone

For 4-7 years and 8-12 years

Have a fun week!
acting, singing & dancing with a performance to family & friends at the end of the week.

Book NOW
ACT DANCE SING

Around 40 years ago, EHOS pioneered the musical theatre summer schools for the Borough of Broxbourne, offering 4-day workshops for a maximum of 50 children, with a performance for parents on the final day! The amount of work that went into these events and the end results were amazing and even inspired some youngsters to go on and make professional careers—the Stoller School and Mayhem being two products, founded by workshop participants.

Looking Ahead to the Autumn

Two of the oldest-established groups in the borough will be appearing at the Spotlight.

EHOS PRESENTS

LEGALLY BLONDE
The Musical

September 29th—October 1st
at the Spotlight Theatre
Tickets £17 and £21

Evenings 7.30 pm,
Saturday Matinee 2.30 pm

www.ticketsource.co.uk/ehos

HODDESDON PLAYERS
Amateur Dramatic Society presents
Registered Charly No. 1149056

Anybody for Murder?

November 10th-12th

by
Brian Clemens & Dennis Spooner

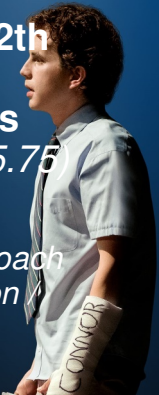
EHOS began back in 1960 and presented mainly Gilbert and Sullivan and light operettas until the public demand for American musicals began to broaden their choices. Now they present two modern shows a year.

Hoddesdon Players is one of the the oldest groups in Hertfordshire, founded more than 100 years ago! Winners of numerous awards over the years, they present two productions a year at the Spotlight, mainly thrillers and comedies with the broadest appeal for local audiences.

DEAR EVAN HANSEN

September 12th
7.30 pm
£62.50 stalls
(face value £95.75)

Includes return coach
from Hoddesdon
Cheshunt



Last chance to see this
award-winning musical before
it closes in October!
*"The most vital and important
musical of a generation"*
(Daily Mail)



MAYHEM
THEATRE & CREATIVE ARTS

West End Theatre Trips

TO BOOK TICKETS
PLEASE E-MAIL

jessie@mayhemgroup.co.uk



**Nicole
May
and
Alex
Purves**

Founders
of
Mayhem
Theatre
Arts



November 7th

7.30 pm
£52.50 stalls
(face value £97.00)
Includes return coach from
Hoddesdon / Cheshunt

A 2019 coming-of-age stage musical
The story focuses on a "what if" scenario,
where Juliet does not die at the end of
Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.
*"one of the best new musicals in a while
and then some"* (What's On Stage)

Mayhem Theatre Arts

After 15 years of trading, Mayhem Theatre Arts has re-vamped its image, using a different background colour for each aspect of its extensive arts activities and adding the word 'creative' to its name.

A splendid new, multi-colour sign has been attached to the main building in Brewery Yard, Hoddesdon, which can be seen from Sainsbury's car park.



Film-making and Screen Acting have been added to the regular timetable and their recent examination results were the best ever, with most students achieving distinctions and merits.

Senior award winners at the recent 'Get Happy' dance production at the Spotlight with Mayhem Director, Nicole May (centre back) and staff member Millie Andrews.

Telephone 01992 465100
mayhemgroup.co.uk

Around and About



Hoddesdon



Love Hoddesdon's Vintage and Classic Cars Day on July 9th attracted a huge crowd of enthusiasts and was blessed with perfect weather.

CINEMA
GALLERY
EVENTS
STUDIO
CAFÉ

**hertford
THEATRE**

Hertford Theatre Project

Slow progress, but the prospects are exciting.....

Planning permission is in place and the contract has been awarded to regional contractor, and Hertfordshire based, GPF Lewis.

Enabling works are now underway to prepare the site for construction.

“From installing permanent bird and bat boxes on the trees that are staying put, to beginning a series of archaeological digs inside our building; there's plenty going on behind our hoardings. If you pass by our site on The Wash regularly, you'll notice some changes on the outside soon too as demolition starts shortly.

As you can imagine, due to the complexity of the site next to a river and a working pub, in front of a castle and on a main road, this work requires careful planning! We look forward to seeing some big changes very shortly”!

The artist's impression makes the new theatre look a bit like a prison!





Staff, Trustees and Volunteers together with invited guests, celebrated Lowewood Museum's 40th Birthday with a Garden Party on July 2nd.

The weather was *perfect* and the garden looked a treat, thanks to volunteers.



There were activities and face painting for children.

Lowewood Museum's 40th Birthday



Morrisons, Lowewood Museum's catering sponsors, provided cream teas, a surprising number of which were enjoyed during the *morning*, not at tea-time!



Lowewood
MUSEUM

Your Heritage, Your Museum

Friends of
Lowewood Museum
Helping ensure the future of our museum



Trustee, Councillor Siobhan Monaghan, did the washing up!

Entertainment was provided by pianist, Paul Arnold (whose keyboard was cunningly concealed in a baby grand piano shell) and trustee / guitarist, Pete Dockar.