



Keeping you in touch with BArts and the local Arts scene

## No.36.July 2023



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**Apologies!** This will be a slightly shorter version of the Broad-sheet this month, as your editor is knee-deep in removal boxes awaiting unpacking, plus a mountain of associated paperwork. Unbelievably, the old property was sold *last August*, two potential alternative new properties had unacceptable complications revealed at the last moment and it has taken *all this time* to secure a new home!



Let's Do Lunch !



Let him that would move the world, first move himself." **Socrates**

**July 21st**

12.00 noon, Dinant Room, The Spotlight.

Tickets £16, including lunch and a glass of wine  
01992 441946



Broxbourne Arts Forum presents  
**LET'S DO LUNCH**

**By Royal Appointment**



Royal patronage has played a crucial role in the careers of many artists, composers and writers, in the promotion of innovative ideas, commercial ventures, charities and sport, particularly horse-racing.....

**Friday, September 15th 2023**

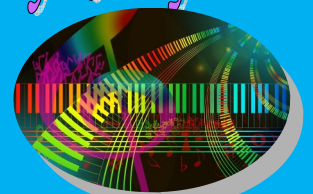
12.00 noon, Dinant Room, The Spotlight, 01992 441946

Tickets £16, include lunch



BArts presents

*My Kind of Music*



**Free** easy-listening piano concerts in the café-bar at the Spotlight, with Barbara Manning.

**Pre-order a lunch and book a table, or choose from a range of light refreshments.**

July 5th, August 2nd, September 6th

Treat yourself to a relaxing lunch-time break!

**SPOTLIGHT BOOKINGS 01992 441946 10.00 am to 2.00 pm**  
**thespotlightvenue.com NB. This is a cashless venue**



**STOP PRESS...This could be very good news for local groups**

**Hoddesdon Free advertising at Broxbourne Station!** There is an opportunity for local businesses/organisations to use the space at Broxbourne Station to promote themselves.

They just need to e-mail [katie.goldthorpe@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:katie.goldthorpe@hertfordshire.gov.uk) the Community Rail Partnership officer and she can set this up with you.



Hoddesdon



## Shakespeare at the Spotlight!



We were lucky with the Lord Chamberlain Men's production of *Romeo and Juliet* in the Spotlight Gardens on June 2nd. There was a good, receptive audience, including some youngsters, for the authentic, traditional-style performance and it **didn't** rain!

The Spotlight was offering stone-ground pizzas, which looked good, although most people had brought their own picnics.

The Spotlight gardens, with the lake in the background, were an ideal setting—sadly underused by the borough, or anybody else for that matter, but there are some valid reasons BArts would love to present an open-air 'Picnic Prom', but the cost of erecting a stage, providing lighting and then paying the performance fee would amount to more than £20,000!

**Meanwhile at the Globe recently** a performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* looked as if it had set out to tick all the boxes in relation to inclusivity, minorities, gender 'fluidity', etc and the result was actually quite confusing—even for someone who knows the play quite well. Hermia was extremely well-played by a dwarf (Sorry! Physically challenged) but it was visually incongruous and distracting against a full-size adult male. Most costumes were doublets under dresses, complete with boots! Bottom, the weaver, was played by a female, who seemed much too quick-witted to get the laughs that a bumbling *male* Bottom usually gets. Of course each generation tends to put its own interpretation and style on Shakespeare, but when text and the visual are at odds, credibility and subtlety tend to suffer.



# JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE



**The Windrush Exhibition**  
Community diversity and co-operation at its best. **NOT TO BE MISSED!**

The Windrush Community Day of Celebration took place on June 24th and visitors enjoyed Caribbean food, performances and colourful crafts.



**23RD JUNE to 16TH SEPTEMBER**

Open Fridays and Saturdays

10.00 am to 4.30 pm.  
**FREE ENTRY**

*A community-curated exhibition embracing the highs and lows that have impacted those from the Windrush generation.*



There are 6 galleries currently covering the history of the Borough of Broxbourne.



High Street, Hoddesdon, EN11 8BH.

T: 01992445596W: lowewoodmuseum.com



Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities

## The u3a Page...Three Local Branches

### Broxbourne

**Thurs, July 20th**



**The Alexander Litvinenko Story.**

The spy who solved his own murder.

**Speaker: Paul Barwick**

**The Spotlight 10.00 am**

**Thurs, Aug 17th**

**The History of Spectacles**

**Speaker: Neil Handley**

**The Spotlight 10.00 am**



### Cheshunt

**Thurs, July 27th**



**The Life and Crimes of Agent Zigzag**

*The Eddie Chapman story*

**Speaker: Paul Barwick**  
**The Laura Trott Centre**  
**from 1.00 pm**

**Thurs, Aug 24th**



**In the Steps of a Wedding Toastmaster**

**Speaker: James Higg**

**The Laura Trott Centre**  
**from 1.00 pm**

### Lea Valley

Lea Valley u3a presents

**Garden Party**

With speaker, Andrew Baker, on

**"Finding Happiness"**

**July 10th**

Meeting from 1.00 pm  
Speaker at 2.00 pm  
at The Spotlight



# In Brief

A ROUND-UP OF SUMMER EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



## Floral Art

**July 12th**  
'Petal Profusion'  
demonstration  
by Gill McGregor.

**August 19th**  
'No Foam'  
Demonstration by Catherine Holness

**Hoddesdon Floral Art Club.**  
2 - 4pm, Jackson Hall,  
Burford Street, Hoddesdon.  
01992 442907.



Two Theatre School  
Productions at the Spotlight

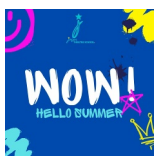
**July 9th Mayhem Theatre  
and Creative Arts**  
Welcome to Wonderland

**July 15th** Stoller Supernova



**Celebrating 20 Years**  
of the Stoller School of  
Dancing

## Summer Holiday Workshops



**Jason Theatre School** 01992 442439 [info@jasontheatreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@jasontheatreschool.co.uk)  
Details tbc



**Mayhem Theatre and Creative Arts** 01992 465100  
[mayhemtheatreandcreativearts@mayhem\\_group](mailto:mayhemtheatreandcreativearts@mayhem_group)

**July 25th—26th** Stage and Screen Audition Technique (8yrs - 16yrs)

**July 27th** Fame Dance Camp (6yrs - 12yrs)



**The Vallé Academy** 01992 622862  
[enquiries@valleacademy.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@valleacademy.co.uk)

**July 31st—Aug 4th** The Toys' Story for 5– 12 yrs  
**Aug 2nd** Fun and Dance

**Aug 10th** Dance Workshop for age 12+ 4.00pm -8.00 pm

**Aug 21st –25th** Peter Pan for 5-12 years

**Aug 23rd** Fun and Dance

## Consultation on the Arts in Broxbourne?

No report yet from the consultation that took place at the end of 2022. Since Broxbourne was in the lowest 20% for Arts in an Arts Council survey a few years ago, it will be interesting to know what the recommendations are to remedy the situation.

**BArts A.G.M. via Zoom, July 18th** In theory this should be the best attendance *ever*, since you don't even have to leave the house, So shall we give *you* a wave.....?!!.