



Keeping you up-to-date
with BArts and local Arts'
news



This edition
completes 6 years of
BArts' Broadsheet!



Our Love Hoddesdon Midsummer Festival Events



Arts Café, June 23rd

Festival Organiser, Stephen Harris, with
two of BArts' team, Alison Gordon R and
Lee Rayner, at the Arts Café

BArts offered *four* events for the **Love Hoddesdon Midsummer Festival**— A Summer Art and Poetry Competition, A Summer Serenade Concert for piano and flute on June 18th, an Arts Café with live music on June 23rd and a performance of Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors* on June 24th, which was preceded by a talk on Shakespeare. The Art Competition entries, having been judged, then contributed to Hoddesdon Parish Church's Festival event *A Celebration of Creativity*.

Summer Serenade

A lovely evening of
first class music!

Barbara Manning Piano,
Jane Rose Flute



Art Competition Winners

1st John Richards
2nd Val Gudge
Joint 3rd Chris Holt,
Carol Quayle

Poetry Competition Winners

1st Jack Carr
2nd Tony Gorman
3rd Joan Facey

Cash prizes of £50, £25 and
£15 in each category





The Festival Players' stylish, traditional production of Shakespeare's comedy entertained and clearly delighted the audience right from the start, by getting them Involved in comic mime sequences before the complicated, comic plot was delivered at great pace.

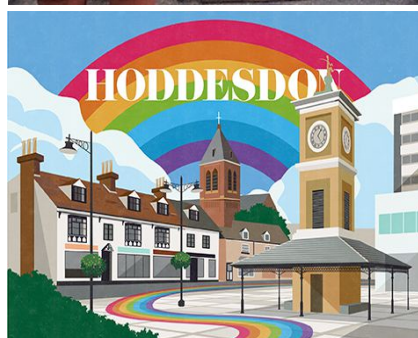
Aided by ingenious, adaptable black and white costumes, reminiscent of traditional clowns and end of pier shows, the all-male cast of just five changed character (and sex!) at speed, which added to the fun! They also sang some specially written songs which gave a special flavour to the production.



Although there was some disappointment when the performance was moved *inside* because of the excessively high temperatures, people still enjoyed their pre-performance picnics in the Spotlight gardens. Judging by audience remarks on their way out, this was Shakespeare at its best and they all hoped to see the company again.

Next year's production will be *Romeo and Juliet* and we intend to find a date as soon as possible.

Sadly, our BArts' team was so busy with our own events that we didn't get to see some of the other Festival delights.



Something Nice to do with BArts in July



July 1st My Kind of Music Piano Concert 12.00-2.00 pm
£3. Pre-book a table and check out the hot food menu

July 5th Dancing through the decades with Mayhem
1.00pm and 5.00pm at the Spotlight
Adult £20, Under 16 £15 hello@mayhemgroup.co.uk



July 8th July's Floral Jewels Demonstration by
 Gill McGregor. **2.00-4.00 pm** Jackson Hall, Burford St.
 Hoddesdon Floral Art Club. 01992 442907
vivanne@hotmail.co.uk

July 14th Film Classic Chicago 2.00 pm £12
Starring Catherine Zeta-Jones, Renée Zellweger
and Richard Gere. A black comedy set in the roaring
 twenties, Jazz age of celebrity and corruption and loosely based
 on two real-life Chicago murder trials. The film won 6 Academy Awards.



July 15th Let's Do Lunch A Skeleton in the Cupboard
12.00-2.40pm £18 Family secrets often lead to lying on official
 documents, such as marriage certificates or Census returns. If you
 embark on Family History, be prepared for anything!

July 18th-19th The Stoller School of Dancing
Annual Dance / Performing Arts Production
 Spectacular, featuring musical theatre and every form of dance
 for family entertainment. **Saturday 5.00pm, Sunday 2.30pm**
Spotlight 01992 441946



BArts' Spotlight events after July 19th have been cancelled,
as the venue will be closed for maintenance.



BArts' New Programme- September 2026—January 2027

We are beginning to plan events and confirm dates for the next BArts' programme for September 2026 to January 2027.

The well-established, successful events will continue, as usual,
 with *My Kind of Music* every month and *Let's Do Lunch* every
other month.

Our recently revived *Film Classics* and experimental new *Arts*
Cafés have proved extremely expensive, attracting only fairly
 modest audiences, so they will continue on *alternate* months in
 the future. We hope to be able to afford the occasional Café Concert with all kinds
 of music.

If you have any requests / suggestions for new events,
please contact

leerayner_arts@hotmail.com



The current Chair of Broxbourne u3a, Barbara Cordina, is seen here 3rd from left, with fellow member Sandra Yates and the Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, centre.

The Borough of Broxbourne has *three* branches of the u3a. The first, under the title of Lea Valley, was formed in 1992 with membership from a very wide area and pioneered the concept of active retirement with a variety of interest groups and opportunities for leisure and pleasure. It became so popular, with membership around 800, that a *second* u3a, Broxbourne, was established in 2000 and a Cheshunt branch followed in 2010.

All three branches follow the same basic principles and practices, but each has a slightly *different* set of interest groups, some of which are open to members of another branch, but quite a few people belong to *two* branches.

**Broxbourne and Lea Valley meet on different days at the Spotlight. Cheshunt meets at the Laura Trott centre.
See p 5 for their events**

Broxbourne u3a has been nominated for a special achievement award as one of the finalists in the Group section of the Hertfordshire King's Trust Award for Volunteers. As part of the nomination process, members of the committee attended an event with the Lord Lieutenant and his team where they introduced him to the concept of u3a. The winners of the award will be announced on the King's birthday in November.

The nomination showcases the huge contribution that u3as make to their local communities, all across the UK.



A New Group Member for BArts



We are delighted to welcome our latest group member, Christ Church Music, who are based in Waltham Cross and now part of the church's programme of music events, under the direction of young, professional saxophonist, Samuel Beddard. His contact with many other young, professional musicians has inspired and enabled a series of lunchtime concerts and a music festival



Summer Music Festival

Weds, August 26th to Sun, August 30th.

**Tickets £10 for each event (£5 students / children)
or £25 for all 4 concerts**

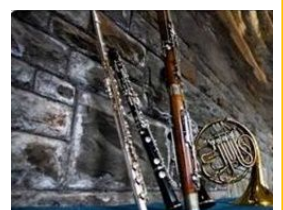
christchurchmusic.org.uk

Weds August 26th Duo Tānwen—Flute and Harp—music by female and Welsh composers **1.00 pm Free**

Fri Aug 28th New Eden Consort—Songs of the British Isles.

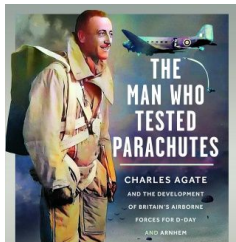
Sat Aug 29th Summer Festival Orchestra—Gershwin, Bizet, Saint Saëns

Sun, Aug 30th Solar Brass Septet featuring familiar music



Broxbourne u3a meets at the Spotlight on **the third Thursday** in the month
at **9.00 am** 07496 702998 broxbourneu3a.org.uk

July 16th



**Speakers: Andrew Colley
and John Neil**

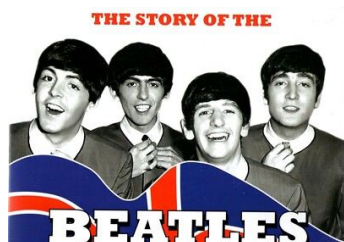
**No Main Meeting in
August due to the
Spotlight closure**

More than 50 interest
groups with something
for everyone ...Art, Craft,
Dancing, Languages,
Music, Indoor Games,
Tai Chi, Sport, Walking

**Guests welcome to try
a taster session**

Cheshunt u3a meets at the Laura Trott Leisure Centre on **the fourth Thursday**
in the month at **1.30 pm** 07984 791184 cheshunt.u3asite.uk

July 23rd



Speaker: Paul Lillie

August

TBC

Indoor and outdoor
activities, day trips
and short breaks.

Art, Birdwatching,
Bookclub, Country
Dancing, Languages,
Needlecraft, Sailing,
Singing, Theatre Visits

Lea Valley u3a meets at the Church Music on the **second Monday** in the month
at **1.00 pm** 01992 916485 lvu3a@live.co.uk

July 13th



Henry VIII

*Musician,
composer,
poet
sportsman...*

**Speaker:
Tony Harris**

**No Main Meeting in August
due to the Spotlight closure**

2 Interest Afternoons

July 24th

Royal British Legion

Aug 28th

**How I Became
A Children's Author**

**1.30 pm Barclay Hall
£3 incl tea and cake**

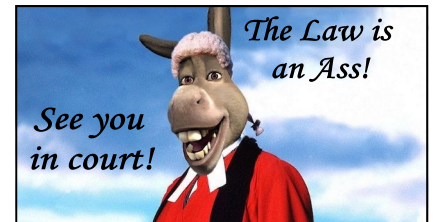
**Archaeology, Art,
Astronomy.**

**Croquet, Exploring
London, Family History,
Heritage, History,
Languages,
Music Appreciation,
Pub Lunches,**

Quizzes,

**Reading For Pleasure,
Walking,
Walking Netball**

An Apology and Explanation



GDPR General Data Protection Regulation is a vital piece of legislation that came to us via the EU in 2018 and tries to ensure that crucial personal information isn't accessible to anyone and everyone for commercial exploitation or worse. Unfortunately, it takes a bit of digesting and numerous instances of misinterpretation can be a real pain to negotiate and overcome.

BArts' Membership Application form specifies how we *use* your details to contact you about BArts' events, but procedures become slightly more complicated when you buy a ticket for one of our events at the Spotlight, especially if a *meal* is involved.

For the past twenty years or so, people booking for one of our popular **Let's Do Lunch** series have been listed with their surname, any specific dietary limitations or access issues to enable us to make a table plan. This has ensured getting seated on arrival, without any problems, but the process has just been unexpectedly challenged by the venue and Borough of Broxbourne as contravening GDPR, unless each individual *specifically registers* their permission. Those who failed to do so at a recent event found unusual *chaos* on arrival, which delayed the start.

Since our lunch lists have just surname and *no contact details* they couldn't be used for any other purpose and are destroyed immediately after the event. However this assertion is still not acceptable. We have checked the details of the law which clearly state.....

The *organisers* of an event have the legal right to hold minimum details as appropriate eg a restaurant managing bookings, a theatre booking seats "without needing explicit consent,, but must store it securely and delete it once the reservation has passed."

.... So we are actually compliant, but the Borough will still be asking for *specific* consent.

DON'T FORGET THAT....



The Spotlight will be closed for the last 2 weeks of July and the *whole* of August for vital maintenance, which includes replacing / repairing the Auditorium floor, improvements to the Foyer and community group access to publicity facilities.

Since the last series of works, pre-Covid, the minimalist décor changed the *atmosphere* and many people have commented that it no longer seemed a lively welcoming venue.

Economising on the provision of every day catering has also had a damaging , negative impact, but we have no indication that this is likely to change in the foreseeable future



Money Matters!

Here we go again... We *have* mentioned this *before*... Our current subscription rates are extremely good value, particularly compared with Gym / Sports Clubs, with Friends paying *less* than 50 pence per week and Full Patrons still *under* £1!

This contributes to the cost of presenting events, 3 printed programmes a year and 12 Broadsheets and, possibly, gives you a small sense of satisfaction that *you* are helping to 'Bring the Arts to Life in Broxbourne.'

A Public Thank You To Some Private Donors!

As in all other areas of life, *costs* have increased enormously, while efficiency and satisfaction are heading in the other direction! We are particularly grateful and touched, therefore, by the number of members who have offered a little *extra* above their subs, or made a more substantial contribution as Sponsors. Thank you very much indeed. We are truly grateful!

Every week, we meet people who *like* what we do, are full of praise for the substantial printed programme and *enjoy* reading the Broadsheet.

If every one of these were to become a Friend of BArts at under 50p a week, our endeavours would become less of a struggle.

There's an application form in our programme and this Broadsheet! See p 10

BArts' AGM June 3rd. We have twenty-eight affiliated groups and a hundred or so members... so we optimistically catered for 30 for the wine and cheese 'social' that follows the very short business bit of the meeting... and we were just a tad disappointed when only 3 members attended!



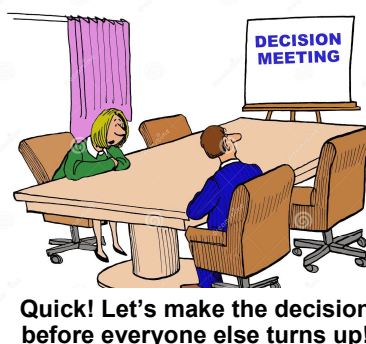
Apart from being a legal requirement, an AGM is an opportunity for members to express views, ask questions, make suggestions.

The current committee was re-elected (unopposed!) but we are still in need of a **Chairman / Chairwoman**.

The ideal person would have enthusiasm / reasonable knowledge / experience in the Arts in general, be computer literate and a good communicator, patient, with a good sense of humour.

Practical, technical ability would be a welcome extra, to deal with our website and cover some social media.

The committee meets about six times a year and everyone attends a proportion of the programme of events to share setting up / practical jobs.



This two-hour meeting was almost as productive as a single, well-written email.



CREATIVE MAYHEM Activity Camp

JULY CAMP: TUES 28TH-THURS 30TH JULY
AUGUST CAMP: TUES 4TH-THURS 6TH AUG

9.30AM-12.30PM DAILY
FOR AGES 4-10 YEARS

CHOOSE SINGLE DATES OR BLOCK BOOKINGS
hello@mayhemgroup.co.uk



★ 5-DAY SUMMER WORKSHOP 2026 ★

Mon Aug 3rd-Fri Aug 7th
Age 5-16

£130 for 30 hours tuition
Goff's Academy, Cheshunt
£30 deposit

The Stoller School of Dancing
thestollerschoolofdancing.com



Why not book on one
of our exciting
Summer Camps!

Mon, July 27th—Fri July 31st
Mon, Aug 17th—Fri Aug 21st



9.30—3.30 pm

£150



SUMMER MUSICAL THEATRE CAMPS 2026

WEEK 1

Monday 27th to Friday 31st July 2026
9.30am - 3.30pm

K-POP CAMP



WEEK 2

Monday 17th to Friday 21st August 2026
9.30am - 3.30pm

Matilda



Price: £150.00 (Sibling Discount £100.00 for second child)



Broxbourne Arts Forum
presents



**A Splash
of Colour!**

**Creative Art Workshop
for Children age 8-12**

August 19th

9.30 am-12.00pm, £15

Studio B, Mayhem Theatre Arts

BArts' Booking 01992 467420

leerayner_arts@hotmail.com

Lowewood MUSEUM Issue 2026

BEHIND THE SEAMS

Seams Subverted

Textile as Art

Fabric and stitch in a new light with works for sale

Local artist Ruth Herbert presents work from 18 members of the Eastern Region Textile Forum.

New twists to old techniques. In the Lowewood Cafe

Can be viewed Fridays and Saturdays 10am-4.30pm on the ground floor.

Please see our website for details of the upcoming textiles workshop and talks delivered as part of this project.

With an art sale and an opportunity to meet the artist Friday 15 May 3-4pm

Ends July 25th

Lowewood MUSEUM In partnership with HODGESSON MODEL AND RAILWAY CLUB



MODEL RAILWAY DAY

WEDNESDAY 29 JULY 2026, 10AM-3PM*

*QUIET HOUR 3-4PM

MEET MODEL RAILWAY ENTHUSIASTS DISPLAYING A RANGE OF LAYOUTS IN VARIOUS GAUGE SCALES.

Most displays will be accessible on the ground floor, a small number may be on the first floor, which is accessible by stairs only.

SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES. Admission free, just turn up!

*Numbers will be limited to support those with neurodiverse needs to have a culture visiting time. To book a quiet hour place, please email info@lowewoodmuseum.org.uk

Lowewood Museum High Street, Haverhill CB11 3BN
T: 01952 445330
E: info@lowewoodmuseum.org.uk
W: www.lowewoodmuseum.org.uk

Lowewood Museum Trust CIO, Charity Number: 102096

Heritage logo, Designed by Broxbourne Design & Print, BROXBORNE DESIGN & PRINT

Highlighting More Events On Your Doorstep!

HERTFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Ware Drill Hall Carnival Fantastique

Saturday 4th July 7:30pm

Including:
Capriccio Espagnol,
Danzon No. 2,
Night on a Bare Mountain,
The Can-Can,
Prélude à l'Après-midi d'un Faun,
and many more favourites for all the family.

Conductor: Jonathan Mann Leader: Auguste Copeland

TICKETS: £20 Adults £8 Students/children
WeGotTickets.com
Hertford Tourist Information Centre (01952 584322)
On the Door from 7pm

Drill Hall, Amwell End, Ware SG12 9HP
www.hertfordsymphonyorchestra.org.uk Registered Charity No. 270025



Lowewood Museum Events

HERTFORD CASTLE BEER AND WORLD FOOD FESTIVAL



SAT JULY 4TH FREE ENTRY
12.00-6.00 PM

Summer Special

TEA DANCE

Sun July 12th

Afternoon Tea Dance with Barry Sapsford's Swing Orchestra Summer Special

2.30-5.00 pm

Southern Maltings Ware

TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC



SUN, JULY 19TH

HERTFORD CASTLE

12.00-4.00 PM

LITTLE MOVERS & BIG GROOVERS FAMILY DISCO

ADULTS £8 CHILDREN £5 FAMILY OF FOUR £22

Family Disco, Aug 15th

Spotlight Bar
Face Painting
Soft Play Area.
Pizza, Ice Creams

Live Entertainment - In Decline?

Broxbourne The Spotlight, Edmonton Millfield Theatre, Harlow The Playhouse, Hertford BEAM, Potters Bar Wylllyotts, Ware Southern Maltings Plus London's West End.

In *theory*, we are extremely well-placed to access live entertainment; in *practice*, fewer people are doing so since Covid and the whole social, emotional and psychological benefits are being missed. Celebrity culture tends to dominate everywhere, so unless there is an instantly recognisable big name attached to an event, it will be very difficult to achieve a capacity audience.

The decline in Music and Drama provision in schools, lack of local transport and high ticket prices are also gradually having an effect. "If we don't use it we'll lose it!" Food for thought.....

BArts' Membership Annual Subscriptions

April 1st—March 31st

Sponsor From £100, Family Four £60, Joint Patrons £50, Patron £35,

Application Form for New Members / Renewals

Name.....

Address.....

Post Code..... Telephone.....

E-Mail.....

Subscription TypePayment.....

Gift Aid BArts is a Registered Charity (Number: 1188425) and if you are a UK taxpayer we can claim Gift Aid on your subscriptions.

This is at no cost to you, but BArts can increase your subscriptions by 25%, so we really appreciate that.

To request a form, email johnelson@hotmail.com
or telephone **01992 460838**

You can pay your subscription in two ways:

1. By Bank transfer to: Broxbourne Arts Forum, Sort Code: 40-24-21,
Account Number: 21377337

2. Cheque payable to Broxbourne Arts Forum (Not BArts) and **send with application form** to the Treasurer: **John Elson, 25, Lyttons Way, Hoddesdon, Herts, EN11 9NH.**

Privacy Statement.

All Personal Information given will be

a) stored securely **b)** only used to communicate with you by members of BArts' team **c)** to meet special dietary requirements, or specific seating needs.