



Hertsmere Arts and Culture Newsletter

Welcome



Welcome to the monthly 'We Are Creative Hertsmere' newsletter, produced by Hannah, Hertsmere's Creative Strategy Support Officer.

This month we celebrated Black History Month in the borough, and many organisations put on events, readings and workshops themed around celebrating the culture and community of Black People in the United Kingdom. We will take you through some of these events and cover what you can look forward to in November.

If you have any events or stories you'd like us to feature, please don't hesitate to [get in touch](#).

Hertsmere Year of Culture 2027

Grants

Community organisations and voluntary groups across Hertsmere are being encouraged to apply for grants of up to £500 to help deliver local events and activities during Hertsmere's Year of Culture 2027.

The funding will support projects, events and activities that celebrate creativity, bring people together and reflect the borough's diverse cultural life throughout 2027.

There will be four funding rounds, with each round linked to three themed months during 2027.

Applications for Round 1, covering January (Books and Reading), February (Charity and Gratitude) and March (Dance), close at 11:59pm on Sunday 22 November 2026.

Details on eligibility and the application process are available through the webpage [Year of Culture Grants - Hertsmere Borough Council](#)

Opening Showcase

We're delighted to invite you to be part of the **Hertsmere Year of Culture 2027 Opening Showcase** at **Allum Hall on Sunday 10 January, from 1pm to 4pm.**

The event will officially launch a fantastic year-long celebration of creativity, culture, heritage and community across Hertsmere, bringing together local organisations, artists, community groups and residents.

Get involved:

- We are looking for local performers to deliver a **20-minute performance** that celebrates the brilliant creativity and talent within our borough

- We are looking for local organisations to have a **stall** at the event. Use this opportunity to raise awareness of your organisation and showcase your work, projects and activities.

If you are interested, please get in touch and we can provide further details about the event and performance arrangements. Please email the [YOC Team](#).



Join our creative community networking group

Do you work in the voluntary and community sector? Does your group focus on creative pursuits? Are you a freelancer working with charities? If so, you're welcome to attend our bi-monthly community networking group.

What to expect:

- A space for creatives to gather, engage in discussion, and make connections
- Opportunities to meet individuals who share your interests
- Guest speakers and information-sharing sessions to help you develop your skills and resilience.

We are pleased to host our next meeting at Hertswood Academy in Borehamwood. You will have the opportunity to tour the School and Theatre during the network meeting.

Next meeting:

Date: Tuesday 3 November 2026

Time: 5 - 7:30pm

Location: Hertswood Academy, Cowley Hill, Borehamwood WD6 5LG

If you're interested, please email [Hannah Oliver](#)

This month's highlights



BHM Author Event - Titilola

Balogun

This month, Hertsmere Borough Council was excited to feature local author Titilola O. Balogun at two in-person book readings. Balogun is the author behind the series "We are Friends: Get to know me", which covers the friendships of primary-aged children from varying cultures and backgrounds. The books are aimed at children aged 0–6.

Two readings were held, one in Borehamwood Library, and the second at the Potters Bar family centre. Balogun, joined by the Mayor of Hertsmere, read from her books and spent some time talking about the inspiration behind her series, including the importance of her Nigerian background.

Balogun's stories can now be found in libraries and schools across the borough. We invite you to share them with the children in your life.



Elstree and Borehamwood Diversity Festival

Allum Hall, Elstree, was once again host to the E&B Diversity Festival. For another year running, it was a tremendous success, with lively debates, interactive stalls and an undeniable community spirit. Spanning two days, the festival aims to showcase the deep and vibrant cultures of the people of Elstree and Borehamwood and offers the public a selection of cultural delights. The festival was opened by Borehamwood and Elstree town councillor [Cllr Farida Turner](#).

If you missed this year, be ready for next October when the festival will return!

Website: [Diversity Festival](#)

From the community

Emergency Briefing on Climate Change



St Martin's in Shenley has hosted two screenings of the People's Emergency Briefing documentary in the last month. The screenings were open to residents of Shenley and further afield to discuss issues the community is facing around climate change, and how these fit into a wider national conversation. The first screening was held on Tuesday 6 October 2026. The session went well and prompted a second screening on Sunday 25 October 2026.

The People's Emergency Briefing is a documentary film released on 7 April 2026, produced by the National Emergency Briefing project to raise public awareness around climate and environmental risks in the UK. The film is based on a national briefing delivered in Westminster by ten leading UK experts in climate science, food security, health, economics, and national security. It presents the implications of climate and nature breakdown for health, food systems, national security, and the economy, while also highlighting credible, positive responses.

If you missed this documentary, look out for announcements of future screenings in your local area.

St Martin's Shenley puts on many events and services throughout the year, if you are interested in coming to one keep up to date here: [Services & Events — St Martin's Shenley](#)



Funded by:



In partnership with:



Little Hands, Busy Bodies

New! Free weekly group for families with young children ☀️

No need to book – just come along!

The Home-Start Watford and Three Rivers Hertsmere Team, 4-4-2 Together CIC and the Family Centre are excited to launch Little Hands, Busy Bodies, a new free weekly session for families with children who are walking and exploring the world around them in and around the Cowley Hill area.

With active play, healthy snacks, creative activities and storytime, the sessions are designed to help little ones grow in confidence while giving parents and carers the opportunity to meet other local families and discover what's available in their community.

For families with children who are independently walking and exploring their surroundings; siblings are also welcome.

When: Every Thursday during term time, 1:15pm to 2:15pm, until March 2027.

Venue: 4-4-2 Together Hub, 101 Hartforde Road, Borehamwood WD6 5HY.

Cost and booking: Free; no booking required.

Parking: Available on nearby streets.

Get Involved



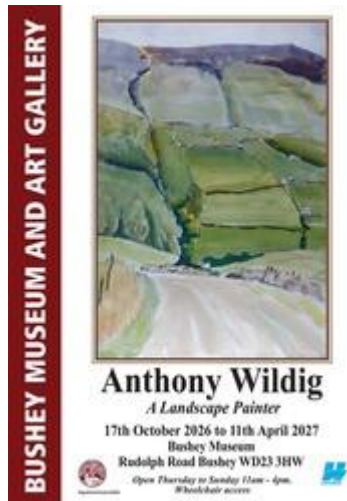
The innocent Big Knit – get knitting for Age UK

Every year, an army of woolly warriors take up their knitting needles and crochet hooks as part of the Innocent Big Knit, in partnership with Age UK.

Every hat knitted raises 30p to help Age UK provide much-needed services and support to older people. If you have some spare yarn and knitting needles or a crochet hook, why not get involved in this grand endeavour?

Read more about how to get involved here: [Knit for Charity - The Innocent Big Knit | Age UK](#)

Museum Corner



Bushey Museum and Art Gallery

"Anthony Wildig, A Landscape Painter"

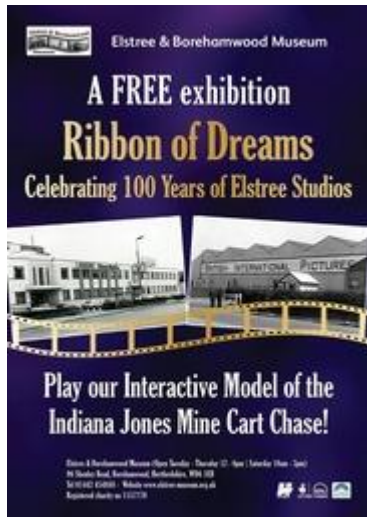
Anthony's work as an antique furniture restorer and cabinet maker has kept him busy. Painting has always been a part of his life and time has shown watercolour to be his preferred medium. An interest in architecture and a love for the wide variety of landscapes found throughout Britain have inspired much of his work. Visits to Cornwall and the Outer Hebrides, both remote and barren places, have had great appeal.

This exhibition will show paintings going back over a period of time – some from the Bushey Museum Trust collection, others on loan – as well as his most recent work. A selection of his paintings is available for sale, so this will largely be a selling exhibition.

Exhibition dates: 17 October 2026 to April 2027. **Gallery:** Anne Blessley Gallery.

Museum opening hours: Thursday to Sunday, 11am to 4pm.

To find out more, visit: [Bushey Museum & Art Gallery](#)



Elstree and Borehamwood Museum

Ribbon of Dreams: Celebrating 100 years of Elstree Studios

Ribbon of Dreams continues into its fourth month with everything you could ever want to know about the film and tv history of Borehamwood at Elstree Studios. Discover the secrets of the studios and play with the interactive model of the Indiana Jones Mine Cart Chase!

Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12pm - 6pm and Saturday 10am - 3pm

To find out more, visit: [Elstree & Borehamwood Museum](#)



Potters Bar Museum

New exhibition: "Potters Bar's Hall of Fame"

Forty-three people, four centuries, one town. Welcome to Potters Bar's Hall of Fame! Going back to the 17th century, meet the most well-known people who called Potters Bar home for all or part of their lives.

Next history talk: 'Aarken Moneta' – Coinage in England in the 14th and 15th centuries.

An illustrated talk with images and objects by Tim Lambon, who makes and sells replica hand-struck medieval coins. **Date:** Monday 23 November 2026. **Time:** 8pm - the talk starts promptly. **Venue:** United Reformed Church, 245 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1BZ. Free parking and refreshments are available. Non-members are welcome.

Admission: £1 for members, £2 for non-members.

Museum opening hours: Tuesday and Wednesday, 2:30pm to 4:30pm, and Saturday, 11am to 1pm.

To find out more, visit: [Potters Bar Museum & Potters Bar and District Historical Society](#)



Radlett and District Museum

Display: Playing for Radlett

Sport has long been woven into Radlett life. It has brought people together across generations.

Playing for Radlett explores seven sports: cricket, rugby, tennis, squash, golf, football and bowls. This informative and engaging display tells the stories of the history, events, people and places that enabled Radlett's sporting life to flourish, and invites visitors to share their own memories of Playing for Radlett.

Dates for your diary

Memories afternoon – Reminiscences of Radlett Cricket Club with Tony Johnson. Wednesday 18 November 2026, 2:30pm to 4:30pm at Radlett and District Museum, 413A Watling Street, Radlett WD7 7JG (behind Radlett Village Institute). Tickets cost £5; please contact events@radlettmuseum.com.

Monthly free children's colouring sessions – first Saturday of the month, 10am to midday. See the website for details.

OPPORTUNITY: Radlett Museum is looking to appoint a new Secretary to the Trustee Board, following the planned retirement of the incumbent in December 2026. Please get in touch if you or someone in your network might be interested in this opportunity.

Museum opening hours: Wednesday and Saturday, 10am to midday.

To find out more, visit: [Radlett and District Museum](http://www.radlettmuseum.com).

Upcoming Events



Looking for more upcoming local events? Check out **Borehamwood Radio's** Local Events Calendar here: [Local Events | Boreham Wood Radio](#)

Reveley Lodge & Garden
88, Elstree Road, Bushey Heath, WD23 4GL
www.reveleylodge.org

Halloween AT REVELEY LODGE
Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th October
10am - 12.30pm, and 1.30pm - 4pm

- Halloween garden trail
- Spooky rock and ghost hunt
- Giant Spiders, Flying Witches, Bat Cave, Dracula's Grave and more!
- Children's Halloween crafts and activities
- Storytime
- Refreshments

Entry £6 per child (must be accompanied) and £3 per adult
Visit website to book. *Free charge apply

LEGO

Club for children
Radlett Library
First Thursday of the month
4:45 - 5:45

Drop in - no need to book

LEGO builds STEM skill!
Come along for fun challenges which build problem solving, spatial awareness and creative thinking

£4.40 per session

Suitable for children ages 5 - 12
Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult
Note - children below the age of 5 will not be able to attend this session

#HertsLibraryLEGO
Further details 0300 123 4849
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/targetclubs

ART & DESIGN ROOM

Home Ed Art Class
Get creative, be inspired!

- ART CLASSES
- ART HOLIDAY CAMP
- ART TUTOR 1:1
- AFTER SCHOOL ART CLUBS
- ADULT WORKSHOPS

A range of art projects and skills to boost your confidence and creativity!

Mondays 12.30pm - 2pm
Suitable for ages 12-16

Wednesdays 10.30am - 12pm
Suitable for ages 6-11

£14 per person
Siblings discount applies
Elm Court Community Centre, Potters Bar, EN6 3EP

ALL MATERIALS PROVIDED & LIGHT refreshments

www.artanddesignroom.co.uk

ELSTREE & BOREHAMWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Celebrating over 100 years of Film and TV production in Elstree & Borehamwood.

THURSDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2026
MEADOW PARK, BOREHAMWOOD
7.00PM - 8.00PM
(Display will start at 7.30pm)
FREE ADMISSION

POTTERS BAR FARMERS & CRAFT MARKET
IN DARKES LANE

2026 MARKET DATES
5TH APRIL - 3RD MAY
7TH JUNE - 5TH JULY
2ND AUG - 6TH SEPT
4TH OCT - 1ST NOV
6TH DEC

10am - 2pm at REVIVE
Market & Farmhouse

To enquire about booking a stall
01707 527801
info@pottersbarfarmersmarket.co.uk
www.pottersbarfarmersmarket.co.uk

Storytime

Oakmere Library
Thursdays 11.00 - 11.30

Join in with stories & rhymes
- Ideal for children aged 2-5 years

This activity is free, donations welcome

The Friends
An Evening Out in The Afternoon

EVERY SUNDAY AFTERNOON IN BOREHAMWOOD

- From 2.30 to 4.30pm
- DIFFERENT LIVE ENTERTAINER EVERY WEEK
- Singalongs and Games
- 6 Wonderful Raffle Prizes Every Week
- Snacks and Cold Drinks
- Tea, Coffee and Cakes
- Run By Volunteers, people who care

Supporting our Seniors, the Isolated, the Disabled, People living with Dementia, Where Are We?

MAXWELL PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE, MAXWELL ROAD, BOREHAMWOOD, WD6 1JJ

NEED Transport?
Over 20 years Of Giving To The Community

£20 Entrance, Includes The Event and Minibus
£14 for independent travellers

Contact Details: tel: 01923 289890
Email: info@friendscarehomes.com
www.friendscarehomes.com

Facebook: Registered charity no. 117048 Run By Volunteers

The Oxford Rep Company Presents
A short film and live theatre production of Shakespeare's 'Hamlet'

HAMLET

OXFORD REP COMPANY

RADLETT & DISTRICT MUSEUM
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ARE YOU DOING THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD?
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES?

The Radlett & District Museum is looking for volunteers to help with various projects.
e-mail to info@radlettmuseum.com with a short overview of your skills.

JOURNEY THROUGH COLOUR
Paintings by Anupama

Solo Art Exhibition
1ST OCTOBER - 31ST DECEMBER
Radlett Centre
Apthorp Gallery - 1st fl
1 Aldenham Avenue
Radlett
WD7 8HL

OPEN MON-SAT 10AM-4PM (FREE)
CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:
3RD & 4TH OCTOBER & 1ST NOVEMBER

Email: anupamah47@hotmail.com
Instagram: anupamart

4-4-2 Together CIC & 4-4-2 AFTER HOURS

YOUTH | COMMUNITY | SENIORS

POOL | TABLE TENNIS | GAMES CONSOLE

EVERY TUESDAY 5.30pm - 7pm
FREE TO 16 YEARS

LOCATION: 4-4-2 Together, 101 Harpende Road

4-4-2 Together CIC
This Week's Club

Fun, friends and memories

MONDAY Together Stay and Play Team - 2pm £3 per child	TUESDAY Active Explorers Team - 2pm £3 per child
WEDNESDAY Together Stay and Play Team - 7.30am £1 a child	THURSDAY Hertsmere School Partnership 1.30pm - 2.30pm Free support fees
FRIDAY Legacy Gymnastics 10am - 10.45am £5 per child	SATURDAY Little Monds Busy Bodies 1.15pm - 2.15pm £5 per child

4-4-2 Together CIC
101 Harpende Road, Borehamwood, WD6 5EP

THE WELLINGTON WD6

WEDNESDAY NIGHT QUIZ NIGHT

£200 Cash prize for the winning team
8pm



**It's a win-win situation when you play
Hertsmere Community Lottery!**

Hertsmere Borough Council runs the Hertsmere Community Lottery to support local good causes. As a player you will be in with a chance to win great prizes for just £1 a week. Whether you play weekly or just for the Super Draw, it's a simple, fun way to give back, with thousands already raised for local charities—making it a true win-win. Play the lottery: [Hertsmere Community Lottery](#)