

**BROMLEY & SHEPPARDS COLLEGES**



# *Herald*

August/September 2023



# Welcome

Dear Collegians and Friends,  
July and August are proving to be a time of ups and downs in the life of the Colleges, with the news of the sad death of Pam Dawson, a friend of many here and the sudden passing away of Ruth Allton. On the front cover is a lovely picture of Ruth and Paul outside their flat.

Hopefully, this edition of the Herald will reflect something of the experience of living in the Colleges, with its joys and sorrows amid these beautiful grounds and the many activities of the Collegians.

The deadline for the next Herald will be Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September. Please send contributions to me, preferably by email to: [therevvedbee@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:therevvedbee@hotmail.co.uk)  
As ever, thanks to Jo, for printing and delivering the Herald each month.

*Brandy Pearson*



*The view from my window*

# Sponsor a Night Hike

Maggie’s is a charity providing free cancer support, well-being advice and information in 29 centres across the UK and online. Their centres are in major cancer hospitals providing a welcoming space and a haven from the main site. If you or someone you care about has been diagnosed with cancer, Maggie’s at the Royal Marsden in Sutton can help. It is 40 minutes away from Bromley College by car, or by train/ bus. One-to-one information on benefits and welfare, diet and nutrition, emotional support and many ways of help are provided every day, and there are groups and activities eg creative writing and crafts, and free refreshments at all times. Yvonne and Neil are very grateful for the support of Maggie’s at the Marsden. Neil will be walking 18 miles on Friday night, 29th September, starting at 10 p.m. from Shepherd,s Bush to the Millennium Bridge and back. Support Maggie’s if you can, by sponsoring him per mile, or as you wish. Thank you so much.

*Neil Fairlamb*

## Pam Dawson's Umbrellas



In her time here, Pam Dawson was a very regular member of Bruce Driver's Creative Arts Group. This is a copy of one of her paintings, owned by Bruce. Maybe you could join us and see what creativity the meetings might unlock!

*Brandy Pearson*

## Some Forgotten Words

*contributed by John Townsend*

**twangdillows** – The sound of a fiddle  
*from Thomas Wright's Dictionary of Obsolete and Provincial English 1857*

**meatified** – Corpulent  
*from Sir James Murray's New English Dictionary 1908*



# Dorothy McDougall's Memorial Service

with many hats worn in her honour.



## Amsterdam

I was in Amsterdam briefly earlier this year and apart from the usual things, Rijksmuseum, van Gogh, Anne Frank's house, I visited the Begijnhof which is a collection of houses around a court, where a lay community of Roman Catholic women lived. The community was founded in the 14th century and the last Beguine died in 1971. After the Reformation when Holland became a Protestant country the community was allowed to remain in their houses, but their church was given to the Presbyterians. A secret Catholic chapel was made in one of the houses. The two churches still exist. It is a very peaceful quiet place, in the midst of a busy city, a bit like Bromley College!



*The Begijnhof and the community's original church*



The other place I visited was the Anglican church where my brother was married to a Dutch girl in 1958. I had never seen the church as at the time I was still living in South Africa. It was lucky that I happened to go on a Wednesday afternoon which is the only time the church is open during the week. The



interior is very old fashioned with box pews and above the altar, the creed, the Ten Commandments and the Lord's Prayer, and above that is a very large Lion and Unicorn! You may be interested to know that Mary Kemp's father was at one time the priest-in-charge there.

Clare  
Preston



The English  
church in  
Amsterdam





## My Red Letter Day at the London Aquatic Centre

Adrienne made a staff/customer announcement calling me to reception. I jumped out of the pool, grabbed my towel from the locker and swiftly made my way to where Adrienne was waiting with my hero (not just for one day!\*)

Adrienne had told me, on my arrival that Tom was there and that she would like me to meet him, but I thought it to be unlikely since he was flying back to Lance in Los Angeles with the two children the day after, and would be pretty busy. Whilst Tom and I chatted, Adrienne went to grab her phone and took this photo. It was the highlight of my year. Ironically, Tom is clothed and I'm the one starkers!

*Michael Hewitt*

*\*David Bowie reference*



# Scotney Castle and Gardens

A fine National Trust property near Lamberhurst, just an hour from us on the A21, is Scotney Castle and Garden: two properties to visit



for the price of one, a 14th century moated castle and a Victorian country mansion, built from stone quarried on the estate. If you go this summer, you can visit a very moving exhibition of the distressing number of British birds ( 245 species) that are at risk of extinction from many causes - some global, some local . Using the traffic light colours, the RSPB has identified 103 species are on amber eg the song thrush and red wagtail but no less than 70 are now on red alert. Red-listed means at least

a 50% decline in the breeding population. They include swift, lapwing, ptarmigan, capercaillie, woodcock, herring gull and turtle dove. They include two birds we used to see often in our Welsh parishes, especially on Anglesey at



Beaumaris - the dunlin and the puffin. Puffin Island was in my parishes and there is a ruined 12th century church there. Here they are, the dunlins and the puffins (photos below). Jayne Ivimey, an East Anglian artist, spent 7 years in New Zealand working on bird conservation and her exhibition at Scotney shows life-sized unadorned clay models she has made of each of these species to immortalise and commemorate these birds with dignity. Do see it if you can. May I also mention a wonderful book by the late John Stott *The Birds Our Teachers*, biblical reflections on what birds tell us of God's purposes for His creation.

*Neil and Yvonne Fairlamb*







# discover your new interest

BROMLEY LITTLE THEATRE AND u3a BROMLEY HAVE TEAMED UP FOR A DAY OF DISCOVERY ABOUT THE THEATRE AND u3a GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES.

**SATURDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER 2023**  
11am - 3pm at Bromley Little Theatre



**Bromley Little Theatre**  
North Street,  
Bromley BR1 1SB

**u3a**  
Bromley

**bromley**  
little  
theatre

# u3a

Bromley

**Art appreciation, bridge, board games, history, gardening, singing, talks, outings and much more!**

**No longer working full time, want to expand your horizons?**

Would you like to spend time in the company of people in a similar situation, learn new skills and explore new ideas or develop existing ones? Then **Bromley u3a** is for you!

Meetings are held at various venues. Our motto is: **learn, laugh, live** - so come along and prove that you can teach a 'mature pooch' new tricks and have a lot of fun in the process.

**u3abromley.org.uk**



**Ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes? We are entirely run by volunteers so come and get involved!**

- acting and directing
- lighting and sound
- stage management
- costume and props
- front of house
- running the bar
- set design and construction
- marketing shows and much more....

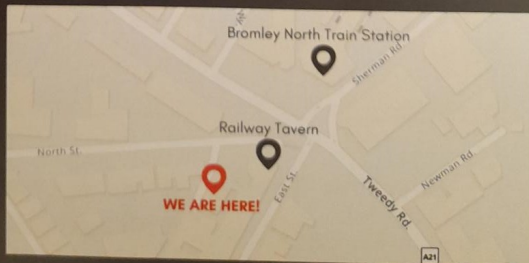
**Find out more about our history and redevelopment plans, fundraising, our shows and volunteering opportunities.**

**Scan the QR code to sign up to receive our emails and volunteer.**



**bromley little theatre**  
outstanding theatre for everyone

Bromley Little Theatre is situated behind the Railway Tavern opposite Bromley North railway station. Head to North Street and down Compass Lane and you will see us.  
**bromleylittletheatre.org**

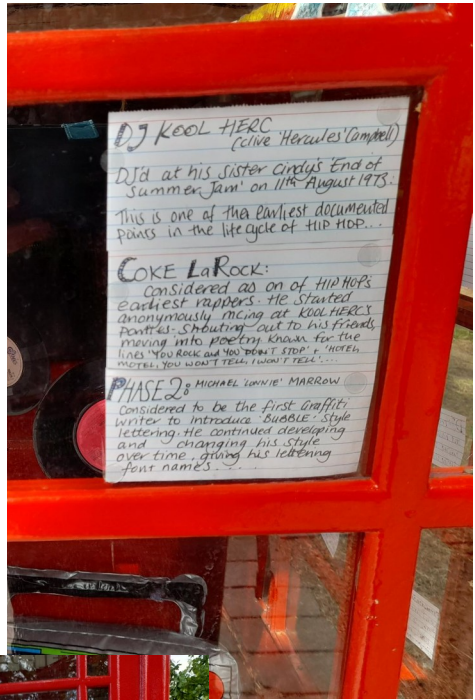




# Crystal Palace Park Telephone Box Exhibition

In these days of mobile phones, what do people do with their old phone boxes? This box, in Crystal Palace Park, has been utilised as a small exhibition space. This exhibition celebrates the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of hip hop, a subculture defined by rapping, scratching with turntables, breakdancing and graffiti art.

Brandy Pearson



Brandy Pearson



## More Forgotten Words

*contributed by John Townsend*

**divoteer** – A golfer

*Sydney Baker's A Popular dictionary of Australian Slang*

**franchemole** – A dish in ancient cookery composed chiefly of eggs and sheeps' fat

*James Halliwell's Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words, 1855 -*

**graillon** – A dirty, slatternly woman – one who emits an odour of kitchen grease

*Albert Barriere's Dictionary of Slang, Jargon and Cant, 1889*

**unfurthersome** – A term applied in the North of England to favourable weather that does not *further*, or advance, the ripening of crops.

*Charles Mackay's Lost Beauties of the English Language 1874*

**fauxonry** – Fraud. Adaption of Old French *faussoner*, to deceive, *faus*, *false*.

*Sir James Murray's New English Dictionary, 1901*





**R. I. P. Ruth Allton**

**Bromley and Sheppard's Colleges  
London Road,  
Bromley  
BR1 1PE**