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UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Dunton Garden Suburb



Further to the article in last month's *Bulletin* regarding a "proposed development by Basildon and

Brentwood Councils to build approx. 6,000 houses, along with traveller pitches, between West Horndon and Laindon."

Please see map above which outlines the area we are referring to.

This Association has successfully defended our local Green Belt countryside and we are very concerned over the possible loss of this Green Belt. The knock-on effect on local roads, especially the already busy A127, could be disastrous for our community. Havering Council has formally objected to the proposal. We will keep you informed on this.

Cllr RON OWER

Budget Set for 2015/16

Against a backdrop of unprecedented budget cuts, the budget and Council Tax for 2015/16 was agreed last month. By working as a Joint Administration we listened carefully to the consultation feedback and made numerous amendments to the original proposals, such as keeping Upminster Library open full time, scaling back parking fees in parks to 20p for three hours and 50p for five hours (free weekends and Bank Holidays), extending the Queen's Theatre Grant reduction over three years rather than two, putting more money into Children's Services and supporting an employee led mutual to run the Youth Service, possibly with the YMCA. After the precept for the Mayor of London, Council Tax for 2015/16 will rise by 1.3%, the first increase since 2009.

Despite the very tough financial challenges we continue to face, it is vital we maintain good front line services while protecting our most vulnerable people. As such, we will make every effort to ensure our residents receive the best possible service and value for money is obtained at every turn.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Upminster Town Centre



At the February ward meeting we had a presentation on local economic development from council officers. Whilst it seems we have a high number of vacant premises in our high streets, compared across the Borough, Upminster has a higher

occupancy than all other Town Centres except Hornchurch. Our vacancy rate is 5.6% which is better than Harold Hill, Elm Park, Romford, Collier Row and Rainham, Romford being 8.8%. There are three vacant premises likely to be occupied very soon. There is no real incentive to keep premises vacant long term as after three months Business Rate relief ceases. 70% of our outlets are occupied by Independent Traders, many are food outlets and Restaurants, as well as our bigger stores such as Waitrose and Aldi. The Town Centre Team are always seeking ways to improve the occupancy of our premises and events such as the Italian Market and our Christmas event are ways to improve the footfall in our High Streets. Partnership working with the Upminster Conservation Partnership (this was originally the Central Upminster Conservation Group which we set up) where my colleague Linda Hawthorn is secretary also helps with ideas to make the vacant premises attractive with visuals of the rich heritage Upminster enjoys. Your ward councillors work with officers to maximise occupancy in our Town Centre.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

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Old Windmill Hall Site

As we go to press, please note that Planning Permission has been given to build retirement flats on this site in St Mary's Lane. Full details next month. Many local people including your Residents' Councillors. Friends of the Park were against this.

Cllr RON OWER

PC Sarah Morris returning to us and PC Mark Edwards moving to be the schools officer. Mark will cover Coopers, Gaynes, Sacred Heart and Hall Mead, in addition to the primary schools of both Upminster and Cranham. Sarah will be dedicated to Upminster ward and hopefully will be available to attend our regular ward meetings to update us on local issues.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Upminster Police changes



I reported in the last *Bulletin* that there were changes to the nominated ward Constable, with

Association AGM

The Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association Annual General Meeting took place at the St. Josephs Hall, St Mary's Lane in February.

Mr Jan Derewicz gave a presentation on the Association's activities in the last year.

Pointing out the success of having six Councillors returned again at last year's local elections.

Jan was given a vote of thanks and whilst not re-standing as

Chairman will remain on the Executive.

Brian Peters gave a full Financial Report.

The following were elected as Association Officers for 2015: Chairman Chris Wilkins; Vice-Chairman Garry Procter; Treasurer Brian Peters; Secretary Mike Long.

GP Talk at Cranham

As part of our monthly meetings for residents, we are delighted to have a representative from Havering Healthwatch give a talk about new arrangements for local GP out-of-hours service. The talk takes place on April 9th at the Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens (7:45pm). All welcome.

Upminster Ward Meeting Speaker

The speaker for the 1st April Ward meeting, 8 pm at St. Joseph's Hall,

St. Mary's Lane, is Nigel from the Samaritans. As you know, the Samaritans provide valuable advice in times of need and are always available to give support. Come along and hear more about this organisation.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

An Easter Message

After the dark evenings and cold winter days, it is a relief to see signs of the spring flowers beginning to appear - an indication of the new life about to break out in our gardens and parks. And we thank God for the green spaces in our community and the trees which line many of our streets.

So for us in this country, it seems appropriate that Easter should fall at this time of the year, because the important message of the festival is not just that Jesus died, but that he rose again from death - an indication of the new

continued on page 3

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life which was breaking out in this world through him, and available to everyone. This is the good news of Easter which brings hope for the future in a fractured world where hope seems in short supply.

We invite you to join us in celebrating the good news this Easter in one of our churches, or in Upminster Park on Good Friday morning. You can find details at: www.ctucno.org.

Rev. Mark Davison
Upminster Baptist Church

The Convent Sacred Heart of Mary

This wonderful Grade two listed building in the heart of the Upminster Conservation Area next to the sacred Heart School in St Marys Lane was a convent from 1927 to 2014. It was originally built as a family house. Many local residents will

remember seeing the nuns in Upminster. The Council's Planning Committee in February unanimously agreed to give planning permission for "erection of two 2 - storey side extensions, internal alterations to facilitate the conversion of the building into seven apartments; provision of car parking, cycle and refuse stores and formation of access drive to rear and construction of two 2 - storey 5 bed linked-detached dwellings with car parking " and I am pleased to say that the company doing the conversion are very sympathetic with the building, taking and following the advice given by English Heritage. The hideous 1960s extension at the rear is to be demolished. All internal features, such as the important Burns-Jones stained glass window will remain. Being so close to other wonderful buildings, the school, the Old Chapel and of course the Windmill.

It will be great to see the building

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being used again especially for the potential residents.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Proposed Engayne School Expansion

At the time of writing the Engayne planning application P0072.15 has been withdrawn, due to inaccuracies in the Travel Statement. A new application should have been submitted by the time you read this; submission date is not currently known. Unfortunately due to advance printing dates we may have missed the opportunity to provide you with the new application details however, we will always post details of major applications or points of interest on the notice boards in Avon Road and in Cranham Village, so please keep an eye out for details. I will also post details on my

Facebook page Councillor Gillian Ford.

The new application will have a new application number and will require new letters of comment. If you submitted letters on the first application, you will receive letters notifying you of the new application but the original letters cannot be returned, as the Council scans them and then destroys them.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Upminster Park Funday

Saturday 9th May. 11am- 4pm.

Friends of Upminster Park Funday.

Lots to do and see, including donkey rides, slide, walking balls, castles, kiddies' rides, side shows, brass band. Variety of stalls to browse and ride on a train.

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using up available free spaces, the
proposals this time round will
allow 30 minutes free parking.
More details to follow.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

members will be covered by a
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member and work alongside your
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If you want to know more
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Guided Wild Flower Walks

Mary Smith, local botanist, will be leading more interactive wild flower walks this year at Belhus Woods Country Park, which lies between Upminster and Aveley. This is a place with lots of different types of plants, so we will never be bored, and there will be plenty of plants to see. Each walk is 3 hours (but we move rather slowly!), meeting by the Visitor Centre (grab a cuppa first, if you want) for 1:30pm start, ending back at 4:30pm. Dates for 2015 are all **Wednesday afternoons: 8 April, 13 May, 24 June and 19 August**. No buses run anywhere nearby, but walking or cycling are fine. Parking a car costs £2.20 for the day, so come in shared cars if you can! The Park charge £4 per person per walk, not much for 3 hours learning and enjoyment in the outdoors, is it? Please wear old tough clothing,

with old trousers and stout shoes or boots (to cope with mud, nettles, brambles etc), with macs and wellies if it is wet. The climate is dry at this Park, so you won't need wet gear much. Bring a wildflower guide if you want, and a pencil and notebook, and a camera, and a sunhat and anti-insect spray, but none of these items are essential. A small x10 hand lens is essential, but I have ones for loan if you don't have your own. You don't have to be fit, but you do need to be able to stand still and walk gently for 3 hours, and kneel on the ground to study a rare flower, and get up again unaided! Bring a walking stick if it helps, and/or gardeners kneepads. Each walk is a stand-alone, or you can come for all 4 to make a better course, if you want. Please leave your dog in somebody else's care, as, being curious animals, they always try to put their faces exactly where we all want to look!

For further info, or to book, call 01708 228921, or email to mary@smith33gpr.fsnet.co.uk

Know your Blood Pressure Day

Hornchurch & Upminster Rotary Club will once again be offering free blood pressure checks in support of the Stroke Associations “Know Your Blood Pressure Day” campaign at the Trinity United Reformed Church, Station Road, Upminster on **Saturday 11th April**, between 10.30am and 2.30pm. Stroke is the most common cause of adult disability and the third most common cause of death in the UK. High blood pressure is the single biggest risk factor for stroke. 40% of strokes could be prevented by controlling high blood pressure so take advantage of a free check and protect your health.

UCRA Coach Outing News

Saturday 16th May, BRIGHTON
Londoners have been travelling to Brighton for beach getaways ever since the railway arrived there in 1841. From iconic tourist attractions such as The Royal Pavilion and Victorian Pier to the exclusive boutiques in The Lanes, Brighton is a treasure trove of things to do. Vibrant, colourful and fun, Brighton offers the energy of a city by the sea. Don't forget to check the "Association Diary" each month for booking details of each trip.

Parking on Pavements

May we remind you that when you intend to park on a pavement, please ensure you are parking within designated marked white lines. Please note a number of drivers have been parking in these

continued on page 7

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when the marked areas are in a controlled parking zone, believing they are safe to park but risking a penalty ticket.

Kindly note the parking ban times covers the marked areas on pavements as well!

Cllr RON OWER



Hornchurch Passion Play 2015

An exciting production following the last days of Jesus!

Re-live the last days of Jesus in Jerusalem from his grand entrance, teachings in the temple, trial, crucifixion and rise from the dead.

On the Green by the Queen's Theatre, Billet Lane, Hornchurch. On 3/4/5 April at 7.30pm. Totally free to attend! Just turn up on your chosen night to witness the events of Easter unfold.... A great play for adults and children alike. More information, photos and videos of previous shows at www.hpp2015.org, or follow us on Facebook "Hornchurch Passion Play 2015".

Dog Fouling Means a Penalty!

Dog fouling is a problem that not only leaves a nasty mess but can be a danger to health. While most dog owners are very responsible and do pick up after their pets, there are some who choose to ignore the rules. If dog owners are caught 'in the act', so to speak, they will be issued with an £80 penalty charge notice. Residents can now report offences by visiting

www.havering.gov.uk/Pages/Campaigns/Cleaner-Havering.aspx or by calling **01708 432563**. Please try to provide as much information about the offence as possible, specifically the dates and times it is committed.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Havering Arts Festival 2015

Havering Arts Festival events in the next few weeks include:
Land, Sea and Sky: The Art of Robert Bryan, and exhibition of paintings at Havering Museum from 4th April to 27th May;
The Magic of the Musicals Workshop at Harold Wood Methodist Church on Saturday 11th April;
Havering Heritage Day at Upminster Old Chapel on Sunday 19th April;
Coin Identification and Valuation Day with Havering Numismatic Society at Fairkytes Arts Centre on Saturday 25th April; and

Verdi's Requiem by Havering Singers at Drapers Academy, Harold Hill on Saturday 2nd May. Full details of these, and all other, Havering Arts Festival events, available at www.haveringartscouncil.org.uk Look out for the brochure in local branch libraries."

Olympic Levy Nears Finish Line

Back in 2006, residents may recall a £20 'Olympic Levy' being added to Council Tax bills by the Mayor of London in order to part fund the 2012 Olympics. It may now be of interest, and indeed relief, that this payment is due to be reduced to £8 next year (2016/17) before ceasing altogether in 2017/18. While there is no question that the 2012 Olympics was a tremendous success and extremely well run, perhaps of less certainty is the quantifiable value of the £16million raised by Havering Council Tax payers as compared with our neighbours

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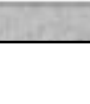
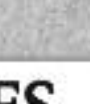
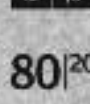
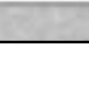
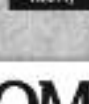
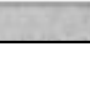
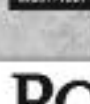
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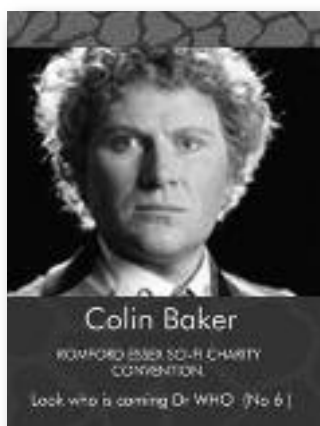
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outside of Greater London, who were not subject to the levy?

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Sci- Fi Charity Convention



The next Charity Convention is at the Harold Hill Community Centre RM3 9LB on Saturday July 25th from 10am till 4pm. This year it is Star Wars - Dr Who - Harry Potter with actors from each. Dr Who No 6 Colin Baker will be attending along with many

other actors, 18 in all. Raising funds for Little Havens Children's Hospice in Essex.

Clock House Bowls Club

The Club held an open day last May which was advertised in the *Bulletin*. Thanks to this, and other advertising we had nearly forty people attending throughout the day. This enabled us to recruit twenty new members. Thanks to this effort we are now in a much better financial position and are looking forward to the future. Our Ladies who won the Albert Crabb County double fours competition for the first time ever, as well as winning the Warley Woods League for the second year running. The second team also finished second in the second division. The men won promotion to the first division of the Romford Bowling Association Triples, and avoided relegation to remain in the top division of the Brentwood and

District triples league.

We are still in the position to welcome any new members next season, men or women, new or existing bowlers. So if you are interested please contact either Jack Briton on 227054 or Pam Bowden on 222185.



Are you struggling with everyday life after your loss?

Grief is an ordinary and natural part of life - sadly, an unavoidable experience for all of us. But when grief strikes we so often find ourselves unprepared. The world seems to expect us to "get over" our loss within a few weeks of the funeral and time passes and we find ourselves wrestling with the same unanswered questions. Joining a group of like-minded people, such as a HOPE Bereavement Support Course developed by West and Coe may

help you. The course allows you to talk things over in a friendly, confidential environment where you have the opportunity to express feelings and fears. You will learn about the grieving experience, share feelings, and questions with other people who have suffered a loss, and so have a chance of understanding what you are going through.

Each course runs weekly for six weeks. The sessions last about an hour and a half and are led by trained facilitators. They are free of charge and open to people of all faiths and none. You are very welcome to join our next HOPE bereavement courses starting on Wednesday 15th April in Hornchurch.

To find out more, contact Linda on 07500 724169.

Email heathandhaveringhope@gmail.com
Write to: Linda Legrand, Heath and Haverling HOPE Group Coordinator, Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster, RM14 2UD.

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Old Tyme Music Hall

On the 15th of January a group of sixty senior citizens were treated to a matinee performance of Old Tyme Music Hall, followed by a cream tea at the Queen's Theatre, Hornchurch. Provided by The Hornchurch and Upminster Rotary Club. The show was a sell-out and the house shook to the sound of audience participation in the songs of the Victorian and Edwardian eras. Transport to and from the theatre was provided by Rotarians.

Springtime in Song

Saturday 11th April, 7.30pm
Local Soprano Joanna Marie Skillett is returning to Upminster Methodist Church for a Concert of Celebration. A night of Song featuring a cast of opera's leading performers and music from many

loved shows of Opera and Musical Theatre, this concert marks the launch of JMS Music in the Community; raising money to launch local Music projects across Upminster. Tickets are £15, including interval refreshments. For more information and bookings, tel: 01708 510031 / 07932 416 102 or contact through: www.joannamariesoprano.com

New plan for the Community Forest

After 25 years of landscape regeneration, The Thames Chase Trust has launched its bold new vision for the Community Forest – The Thames Chase Plan. The plan celebrates the existing achievements of the Forest for local communities:

- created 500 hectares of new woodland planting making a 70% increase in woodland

- planted 1.3 million trees
- created or restored 41.2km of hedgerows
- created or restored 803 hectares of non-woodland habitats
- transformed 20 square km of quarry sites that covered 20% of the Forest area into green havens for wildlife and for people
- benefited from 12,050 volunteer hours since 2005

The new plan will see a 30% increase in the amount of woodland in the forest by 2030, support improvements in poorly restored land, deliver and lobby for improved access between urban areas and the countryside, and also encourage use of the Forest through recreation, volunteering, training, health and heritage. The Forest's new website www.thameschase.org.uk where you can view the plan will also make it easier for local people to find out about the forest, its natural environment and history, as well as about the

groups and activities which residents can enjoy throughout the forest area.

Events at the Forest Centre

Friday 10th April 3-5pm – Musical Cream Tea. £8 per person

Sunday 19th April 10am-3pm – We welcome Essex Farmers Markets to the Thames Chase Farmers market selling a wide range of regional produce along with local craft stalls.

Friday 31st April to Monday 4th May 10am-4pm each day – Art Exhibition by ARTest.

Children's holiday programme: Tuesday 31st March 10.30am-12.30pm – Learn all about trees including stories and crafts.

5years and above.

Wednesday 1st April 10.30am-12.30pm – making Easter bonnets inspired by nature, ending with a grand Easter Parade for all the family.

Tuesday 7th April 10.30am-12.30pm – learn about pets with Whiley's Vets who will be bringing small pets and lots of games for all ages.

continued on page 12

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Wednesday 8th April 10.30-12.30pm – 'Crafty Wednesday' with lots of craft activities. 5years and above
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Tasty Treats Tea Room

Pop in to 'Tasty Treats Tea Room' at First Step, for hot & cold refreshments and delicious cakes. Tasty Treats Tea Room is supported by volunteers to help raise funds for First Step. Neighbours, supporters and new friends welcome!
9.00am—12.30pm The next open day is Friday 24th this month. First Step, Tangmere Crescent, Hornchurch RM12 5PP.

All Saints Quiz Night

25th April at 7.30pm in the Vestry Hall, All Saints' Church, The

Chase, Cranham. A Quiz. Tables of 8-10. Cost £6 including coffee. Bring your own snacks/nibbles. Please contact Helene on 01708 225 629.

Upminster CC v Essex CC

Upminster Cricket Club is pleased to announce that another Benefit Match has been arranged this year. The Essex beneficiary is Ravi Bopara. The match will be played on the Recreation Ground, Upminster on Sunday 16th August. Make a note in your diary and further details will be available in due course.

Craft Fair

A Craft Fair for Hopefield Animal Sanctuary, Brentwood again this one taking place on Sunday 24th May, exhibitors to arrive 9.30am public from 10.30am. If anyone would like to book a stall they can contact me on my email address or mobile 07910 421 182 for details.

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Shirley's Tours

Please note Shirley has organised the following trips:

Wed 15th April: Old Time Music Hall, Maidstone, 4 star Mercure Gt Danes Hotel, tea/coffee/biscuits on arrival, 11.30am 1st half of show; 12.30 - 3 course lunch with tea, coffee, 2pm/3pm 2nd half of show. £48 including coffee/tea/sherry/lunch/show. Coach departs 9.30am ; home approx. 4.30pm.

Thurs 4th June: "Beautiful", the Musical, Matinee (BY COACH £58) pick up Spice of India Cranham) + Thurs 9th July Matinee (No coach) £48 Ticket only. Celebrating the life story of 60s singer and songwriter Carole King. Brilliant Show.

Thurs 3rd Dec : Thursford Spectacular Xmas Show with seating in raised tiered seats + 2 course Christmas lunch pre matinee show at Pensthorpe Bird Sanctuary. Now Booking. £75, inclusive, coach, meal + show. For further information telephone Shirley on 01708 227 884.

Table Tennis

After over 30 years at Hacton Lane, the Havering 50+ Club is moving to The Cranham Community Centre in Marlborough Gardens (Off Avon Road). We play mainly table tennis. Wednesday 3 - 5 pm and Friday 7-30 - 9-30 pm. If you would like to join us or need more information please telephone George on 609 283 or Ken on 443 250.

Let's get baking

The next Vanilla Bake Club will be held on Monday 20th April at The Old Chapel, St Mary's Lane, Upminster from 18.30 until 20.30. We are a group of amateur but keen bakers who meet every 6 to 8 weeks to share our baking, stories and support. Please feel free to join us, we bake something to bring along to share. There is a fee of £5.00 to cover hall, teas and coffees. For further information www.vanillabakeclub.com or email

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Sharon@vanillabakeclub.com or
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British Sugar Craft Guild

The local guild have on Saturday
 11th April "Stand up Wobblies" by
 George Godbold and Beryl
 at Hornchurch Library 1.30pm to
 3.30pm. Entrance at the door £6,
 this includes tea and cake.
 Further details from Brenda on
 01277 810 498.

Exhibition of Paintings

Janet and Terry's paintings will be
 on display at Hornchurch Library,
 North Street, from Monday 27th
 April to Saturday 23rd May.
 Subjects include Animals, Local
 Scenes and Landscapes in
 Watercolour and Oil. The
 exhibition may be seen during
 Library open hours and all
 paintings will be for sale. For
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Oglethorpe Players

Following on from the very
 successful season curtain raiser,
 'Let's All Go To The Music Hall',
 the Players are happy to
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 the year, so far.
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 honoured to be invited to perform
 at the annual Upminster
 Windmill Craft Fair in June. Then,
 following huge public demand,
 they will give us a unique Panto,
 in November/December.
 Gerry is busy writing Cinder-
 elder, a hilarious and original
 look at our usual heroes and
 heroines 50 years on. Will the
 golden wedding anniversary ball
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 the Ugly sister wreck the
 celebrations? Will Button's
 grandson, Velcro get the girl of his
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continued on page 15

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The Wesley Players present....

Ding Dong - A Farce by Mark Camoletti, the playwright of the award-winning comedy "Boeing Boeing".

Story: Bernard has discovered that his wife, Jacqueline, is having an affair with Robert. Being a reasonable businessman, Bernard gives Robert two options to compensate for the affair: either he will sleep with Robert's wife in order to keep things even, or he will have him killed. Needless to say, Robert chooses to let Bernard sleep with his wife. Scheming to woo her, Bernard arranges an evening meal with both couples present - much to the frustration

of their overworked and underpaid maid, Marie-Louise. However, instead of bringing his wife to the dinner, Robert pays Barbara, a call girl, to pose as his wife for the evening. Meanwhile, Jacqueline does not know that Bernard has found out about the affair, and is stunned to learn that their dinner guests are in fact her lover and, supposedly, his wife. The situation then becomes even more hilarious and confusing when Robert's actual wife, Juliette, turns up for dinner!

Prices: £7 for Adults, £5.50 for Concessions and £3.50 for Children (under 16). As usual, Senior Citizens are admitted free to the Thursday evening show. Tickets will be available on the door or may be booked in advance via the Box Office (text or phone) 07708 214742 or at tickets@wesley-players.co.uk.

Performances: are at 8.00pm on Thursday, 14th, Friday, 15th and Saturday, 16th May 2015.

Location: Wesley Hall, Upminster Methodist Church, Hall Lane, Upminster, Essex. RM14 1AE.

Upminster Bowling Club

Open afternoon on Saturday, 30th May at 2.00 pm at 114 Hall Lane. Experience not required - Coaching available Please bring flat shoes - New members welcome. For more information telephone Jennifer Spearman-Adkins on 01708 450250 or Sydney Hill on 01708 229981.

Mini Golf is Open!

The Hall Lane Upminster Mini-Golf Course is now open for the 2015 season. This is a wonderful community attraction which the newly formed 'Friends of the Mini-Golf Course' is working with the Council to bring about improvements for its short and long term future. The Crazy Golf is also the focus of a community competition inviting fresh designs for the facility. More details will follow in the next issue. The course is open weekends and school holidays until 1st November. Fees are £5 for adults

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CLlr CLARENCE BARRETT

Wednesday Music Evenings

Wednesday 8th April - Comedy Tonight - presented by George Saddington who offers a light hearted programme of music concerning clowns, jesters, jokers, buffoons, fools and comedians. Mainly laughs but a few tears as well.

Wednesday 22nd April - That Old Black Magic: The Genius of Stanley Black presented by local musician Brian Luck who will be delving into the recorded music archive of the great pianist, composer and conductor. Best known for his contributions to light music Stanley Black worked with vocalists as diverse as Anne Shelton, Vera Lynn and Cliff Richard but also conducted and recorded music with some well known classical orchestras. Both events at Hornchurch Library, First Floor 7.30pm to 9.30pm.

Further details from Stephen on 01708 470 670.

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Sunday Night Live

This is a great music event in Costa Coffee, which takes place on the second Sunday evening each month, featuring good quality live Christian musicians (generally singer/songwriters). The evening's free, though we encourage you to buy a drink and cake, and it's suitable for Youth and Adults. The next one's on Sunday 12 April, 5.30-7.30 in Costa, 34 Station Road, Upminster, RM14 2TR. Information: 07876 682 402.

Lunchtime Recitals

The recitals take place again this month at St Laurence Church, Upminster.
On Thursdays 1.05 pm to 1.50pm. Free admission. Retiring Collection. All Welcome.
16th Richard Brasier Organ. 23rd Athena Duo Violin 30th Graham Davies Organ and on Thursday May 7th (General Election day) Atea Quintet. Oboe, Clarinet,

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Scout Leaders Wanted

1st Upminster Scout Group
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Cranham Art Society

The Society will be holding an exhibition of paintings in the

Upminster Library from the 27th April to the 9th of May. Paintings of a variety of subjects and media will be on sale. For further information please telephone 01708 229 715 or 01708 642 114.

Dury Falls Alleyway

The problem of accumulated rubbish along the alleyway leading from Berkeley Close to Upminster Station is a persistent and unwelcome eyesore, particularly on the other side of the railway fence. While the Council do make efforts to keep the path clean, it is most frustrating that a few irresponsible people think it is ok to chuck litter (and assorted other items) over the railway fence. I have now been in touch with Network Rail about clearing away the accumulated rubbish and also the Council about placing bins along the alleyway.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

What does Easter mean to you?

Just the fun giving and receiving of Easter eggs (which we all love)or understanding that Jesus loves you so much that he gave his life for you! Join us on Sunday 5th April at 10.00am for our special Easter service. (There'll be Easter eggs too!) Regularly meeting at 10am at The Old Chapel, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QR. For more info see our website: www.gracecommunityc.co.uk



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continued on page 19

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Old Chapel Events

Please note the following events this month at the refurbished Old Chapel in St. Mary's Lane:
Spring Craft Fair, Saturday 4th
10am to 5 pm. Entrance Free.
Lost Country Houses in Essex. Join Paul Sainsbury as he rediscovers local country homes and mansions that have disappeared. Free admission. Starts at 10.30 am.
Haverling Heritage Day, Sunday 19th, 2pm to 5 pm.
Come along and plan a day out in Haverling. Entrance Free.
Further details on 01708 222 660 email gsmith@mary.haverling.sch.uk

FUTURE EVENTS APRIL 2015

- 4 Saturday - **The Haverling Branch of the East of London Family History Society** hold meetings on the first Saturday of every month at Trinity Church, Station Rd, Upminster RM14 2SJ doors open at 1pm meeting starts at 2pm. This month the talk is 'Men of Bad Character' wage decline in farming 19c with Jeffery Page. The Computer Group meets at the same venue 11am - 1pm where a Q&A session is followed by 'Family History @ Your Fingertips' by Meryl Catty. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and

visitors welcome to either or both. Admission free.

- 4 Saturday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL
5 Sunday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL.
7 Tuesday - **Oglethorpe Women's Institute** please note there will be no meeting at the hall this month.
10 Friday - **RSPB Haverling Group** will present an illustrated talk by Natural History photographer Peter Warne "Copped Hall" in Hornchurch Library on Friday 10 April at 7.45 pm. Meeting fee £3. Contact Janet Silver on 01708 452171 for more information.
13 Monday - **Essex Wildlife Trust Haverling Group** will present an illustrated talk "Langdon Living Landscapes" by Rod Cole at Hornchurch Library at 8 pm. Requested donations £2. Light refreshments. For further information contact Joy Emerson on 01708 440297.
14 Tuesday **NADFAS(Haverling)** welcomes Mrs Kate Strasdin giving a talk on "A Royal Wardrobe Unlocked" - the surviving garments of Queen Alexandra". Lecture 10.45 am, Coffee from 10.00 am. Visitors welcome at £6. Meetings held at The Willow Hall, Romford Baptist Church, Main Road, Romford, RM1 3BL. Further details about the Society and future lectures can be found at www.haverlingdfas.org.uk
14 Tuesday - **Upminster and District**

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- Horticultural Society** have Guest Speaker Nick Dobson talking on **The World of Flowers**. Nick's horticultural talks stem from a lifelong passion for gardening. He is an accomplished speaker and specialist in Fuchsia for which he is a former National Show Champion. However, tonight he will be including Dahlias and Pelargoniums in his slide show. The season allowing he will bring his plants and cuttings for sale. The talk will take place in the New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster from 7.45 pm to 9.45 pm, doors open at 7.15 pm. Entrance is Free to members, non-members very welcome for a fee of £2.00.
17 Friday - **Coffee & Conversation**, 10.30 am at Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane, has Speaker Jackie Hurley of BreakAway Tours. Entry £2 including refreshments.
17 Friday - **Haverling Antique Collectors Club** meet at The Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood have Guest Speaker Judith Miller (Antiques Roadshow) on Candle-sticks. 7.30 pm for 8 pm start. Chairman Mrs Jan Halsey on 01708 373574. (Please note due to Easter falling on our usual date of 3rd Friday, the April meeting will be on 17th instead).
18 Saturday - **Quiz Night** in St Laurence Church Main Hall. Doors open at 7.00 pm; quiz starts at 7.30 pm. Tickets £6. Maximum table size of 10. Bring your own food and drink. Tickets available from St Laurence Church Parish Office

01708 220696.

- 18 Saturday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL
18 Saturday **Quiz Night** in support of the Channel 2H Twinning Association of Haverling at The Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens, Upminster, RM14 1SR. Doors open at 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Tables of up to 8. Bring your own drinks, glasses and snacks. Tickets £6. To book a table contact Anne Sambidge: 01708 224703.
19 Sunday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL.
22 Wednesday - **Upminster Park Townswomen's Guild** Meetings are held in Derham Hall (behind the Library in Upminster) from 1.45 pm - 4 pm once a month.
25 Saturday - **RSPB Haverling Group have arranged a coach outing to Sussex Wild Life Trust, Rye Harbour, East Sussex** for a day's birding. Cost £17 each. Pick-ups in Ilford, Romford and Harold Hill. For further information and booking contact Ed Neller on 01708 558399.
25 Saturday - **Fundraising Quiz** at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster at 7.00 pm for a prompt start at 7.15 pm. Fish and Chips supper, bring your own drinks and glasses. There will be a raffle. Tickets are £7.50 and proceeds will be divided between the church and St. Francis Hospice. Tickets from Sonia

continued on page 24

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May Day Fun Day

All Saints Church May Day Fun Day and Classic Car Show

To be held in the grounds of **James Oglethorpe School** in Ashvale Gardens on **4th May, 11am - 4pm**, admission including programme £1.

This is a fun day for all of the family with something to do for everyone, with events such as The Billericay Dog Agility Team, Mr Crazy Legs childrens entertainer and the Sutherland Pipes and Drums.

Come and hold a live Owl, take a ride on a Riffams Donkey or on the miniature railway, or marvel at the Classic Cars on display. Lots of stalls to choose from Books, Plants, Coconut Shy, Home Made Cakes, Grand Raffle, Pimms Tent, Afternoon Tea and Cakes and much much more. The Fete Organisers would like to thank the Businesses both large and small in Cranham and Upminster who have so generously sponsored this event.

Upminster Library Events

Thursday 9th April
Easter Storytime, Songs and

Craft

Join us for Easter fun, stories, craft and songs.

10.30am- 11.30am, 3-5 years
£4.00 members £5.50 non members. Booking essential as spaces limited.

Tuesday 21st April Adult Craft Workshop- Blue and White Cards

Simple and Elegant cards, embellished with concertina flowers. All abilities welcome. All materials supplied.

1.30-3.00. Adults £6.00 Members £7.50 Non members. Booking Essential.

Saturday 25th April

Was Shakespeare Italian?

A talk by Alex Dunitz from Passione Italiana. Shakespeare... England's literary genius, great storyteller and poet. But was the Bard in fact Italian?

Join us for this fun and controversial presentation on Shakespeare's origins. 11.00am-12 noon. £3.00 members £4.50 non members. Booking Essential.

Saturday 11th & 25th April Reflexology & Indian Head Massage

9.30am - 3.00pm. Reflexology £10 for 20min or £18 for 45 min.

Indian Head massage £15 for 30 min (Includes consultation time). Booking is essential. Payment to

made on day of booking.

Bookings by phone must be paid within 3 working days.

Friday 10th April Nails and Massage

12.00- 4.30. Callus Peel £15 Shellac £15. Shape and polish using Vinylux weekly polish £10. Other treatments available please ask. Booking is essential. Payment to made on day of booking. Bookings by phone must be paid within 3 working days

Friday 10th April

Holistic Massage

12.00 - 4.30. Back, neck and shoulder massage using essential oils. £7.50 per treatment (each treatment lasts 15 min).

Booking is essential. Payment to made on day of booking.

Bookings by phone must be paid within 3 working days.

For more information or to book you place contact

Upminster Library 01708 434 933
Upminster.library@haverling.gov.uk

Damyns Hall

The owners of Damyns Hall, Aveley Road, have submitted a Club Premises license. They wish to use the club house/café as a Members club and sell alcohol from 11am to 11pm, 7 days a week. I have objected to this as there are issues of public safety

and public nuisance should the license be granted. Club Premises Licenses are more difficult to control than other alcohol ones as they are regarded as private clubs which means that 'policing' them is more challenging. There will have to be a Licensing sub-committee hearing as my objection is deemed to be valid. Whilst I have asked for the license to be refused, if it is granted I have asked for a reduction in the hours of operation. On a slightly more positive note, I have been told that the silver hanger close to the Aveley Road is likely to be taken down in the summer.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Lymphoma and Blood cancer support group

(Supported by the Lymphoma association)

Although primarily a lymphoma support group we welcome all who are affected by blood cancers such as myeloma and leukaemia. We are a very informal group of patients and carers who meet approximately monthly in the foyer of Upminster Baptist

continued on page 22



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If you then want to progress further I'll be happy to hold your hand at every stage, providing training for DIY for example or contracting for works requiring a decennial insurance, should you wish to re-sell within that period. Charges for these services will be in Sterling if incurred in the UK and Euros if France.

Antony Jackson.

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church. The groups gives opportunity for folks to share experiences and information and learn about Blood cancer over tea and coffee and of course biscuits. Generally there are about 12 - 25 of us at each meeting. Informally we share anything from personal experiences to problems in gaining travel insurance. If you would like to attend any of our meetings, feel free to just turn up or contact Dianne on 01708 787413 or Doreen 01708 508323 for more information.

Dates of our future meetings are:

April 21st - Colour and style consultant - 'tips on looking good when not feeling great'. (at different venue - please contact Doreen for more details)
May 19th - general discussion and share
June 23rd - guest speaker - Trials co-ordinator at Queens Hospital
July / August no meeting
September 22nd - Guest speaker - haematology nurse specialist
Queens Hospital - Understanding your Blood
October 20th - General discussion and share
November 24th - Guest speaker - Professor A Lister (retired)

Cranham Pavement Works

As part of our project to bring about environmental improvements to Cranham, residents and shoppers will have seen the pavement upgrading works outside the shops along Front Lane. This forms part of our overall plan of improvement works to keep Cranham a pleasant and desirable place to live and work. Of course, funding is a constant challenge, but further improvements are being planned and we shall keep you updated.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Upminster Brownies

I run a brownie pack at St Laurence Church on a Monday 5:30pm till 7pm and I am in desperate need for someone to come and help me on a regular basis. I have 14 girls, but would like to increase my numbers, but I really need help. Please phone me on 07842 022 281 for further details.

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- 27 Monday - **Breathe Easy - Havering** In aid of British Lung Foundation, have guest speakers every month held at St Andrews Church, Hornchurch, 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm. Cost is £2 including light refreshments. For further information please ring Joyce 01708 226696 or Elaine 01708 509127.
- 27 Monday - **Romford & District Historical Society**, meet at Myplace, 343 Dagnam Park Drive, Harold Hill, RM3 9EN, Doors open 7.30 pm Meeting starts 8.00 pm - 9.30 pm, have speaker Pauline Obee, MBE talking on **"The Hazards of Managing a Charity Shop"**. Visitor fee £2.50.

MAY 2015

- 2 The Havering Branch of the East of London Family History Society hold meetings on the first Saturday of every month at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster RM14 2SJ doors open at 1pm meeting starts at 2pm. This month the talk is **'Home Office Certified Industrial Schools'** with Dr. Gillian Gear. The

Computer Group meets at the same venue 11am - 1pm where a Q&A session is followed by 'Irish Family History, Resources on the Internet with Peter Christian. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both. Admission free.

- 2 Saturday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL
- 3 Sunday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL.
- 5 Tuesday - **Oglethorpe Women's Institute** have their Resolutions and Annual General Meeting. Our meetings are held at Cranham Social Hall, 103 Front Lane, RM14 1XL at 7.45 pm. Visitors are welcome as our guests for their first visit.
- 9 Saturday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL
- 9 Saturday - **Cancer Research UK** will be holding a fundraising day in Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane 1pm - 3.30 pm. There will be lots to do and see for Adults and Children. Come and be turned into

a Lion, or a Tiger or anything else by our expert face painters, or purchase something for someone special. Please support this worthy cause.

- 10 Sunday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL.
- 15 Friday - **Havering Antique and Collectors Club** meet at the Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood have Guest Speaker Steve Lester on **"Insights or a Provincial Auctioneer"**. 7.30 pm for 8 pm start. For further details please call our Chairman Mrs Jan Halsey on 01708 373574.

ASSOCIATION DIARY

APRIL

1 Wednesday **Upminster Ward Meeting** at St. Joseph's Social Centre at 8.00 pm.

10 Thursday **Cranham Ward Meeting/AGM** at Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens at 7.45 pm.

Association Coach Outing

Saturday 16th May.

Cranham Social Committee coach trip to BRIGHTON. Leaving the Bell School, Upminster at 9am after usual pick ups.

Brighton is an ideal place to spend a leisurely day. Walking along the pier or browsing its historic streets where you will find an excellent mix of shops and plenty of choice for refreshments.

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