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UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Think Local, Shop Local!



Residents will have seen the turnover of shops in Upminster and Cranham, particularly our independent stores, and have expressed concern over the long-term future of our High Street and Shopping Parades. Businesses already face tough challenges with rents, rates, out-of-town and on-line competition, but most of all they need custom. If each of the 18+ population in Upminster and Cranham (20,600) spent just £5 per week in our local independent shops, that would generate some £5.4m for our local economy each year. Also, our independent shops are more likely to source supplies and services locally, such as accountancy, fresh produce, building maintenance, etc,

therefore keeping the local pound circulating in the local economy. Strong local economies thrive on supporting independent shops with a local pound (or a fiver in this case!). The Upminster Conservation Partnership, formerly The Central Upminster Regeneration Group (CURE), supported by Cllr Linda Hawthorn, has been in place for many years to promote and sustain local shops and outlets. So, the message is not to stop using the big chains such as Costa Coffee, Waitrose or Tesco Express, who provide choice and valuable local employment, but just to spare a fiver a week to support our local independent shops and help sustain the variety and diversity of our High Street and Shopping Parades.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Celebrating Linda's 28th

To celebrate Councillor Linda Hawthorn's 28th year on the Council, The Association donated £500 to Linda's choice of charity which is the PDSA. Pictured right are Linda with Derry, an Irish Red Setter belonging to Councillor Clarence Barrett.



Ardleigh Green Bridge Delay

It is of the utmost concern that Transport for London (TfL) have advised that the scheme to replace the Bridge at Ardleigh Green Road will not now be completed by at least the Spring of 2019 rather than the long-advertised date of December 2017 – some fifteen months late! We have written to the Mayor of London to express our deep sense of unhappiness and to seek specific explanations, which include the following points:

- The explanation given that the delay is largely due to 'complex demolition work that took longer than expected' is completely inadequate and we ask for a much fuller explanation.
- The cost of the project was quoted as £32m, given the considerable delay what will be the eventual estimated cost of the project and how will this be funded?

- What arrangements for compensation will be extended to our local businesses, particularly those on the A127, and residents who will have to endure a further 15 months of pollution, delay and inconvenience?
- This junction is a vital route through our borough, carrying considerable amounts of traffic. The ongoing delays has created rat-runs in nearby residential roads creating significant inconvenience, pollution and increased traffic flow for residents to contend with. What measures will be put in place to mitigate against this inconvenience until the Spring of 2019? We shall update you with the response.

Your Upminster & Cranham Councillors

Here to Help Your Organisation?

With your generous support, we are pleased to be able to help numerous local organisations and voluntary groups this year with some financial support. We are still very keen to continue this practice and would be pleased to hear from any community group, organisation or individual whose work in the community could be enhanced through some additional funding. At our AGM next year, we will be dedicating the meeting to the many volunteers and organisations who do such great work in the community of Upminster and Cranham. Should you wish to enquire about a funding application, please contact any of your councillors.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

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Abigail's Column

On your bike



There has been a lot of talk about cyclists in the local area on social media recently and mostly

in a negative way. There have been a few inconsiderate cyclists and young people that seem intent on causing problems, riding all over the roads, riding out in front of cars and people type of thing.

Not all young people are bad cyclists but everyone (including adults) should be aware that there are certain legal regulations involved with cycling:

- Should wear a helmet which conforms to current regulations
- Obey road marking and signals
- Keep off pavements
- Have lighting if out at night
- Have 2 hands on the bars except when indicating a turn
- Not carry passengers
- Not cycle if taking drugs or drinking alcohol

Check the highway code for all the other rules. You can get into trouble with the police for breaking the highway code. To those insistent on riding irresponsibly please stop putting yourself and others at risk.

Upminster Depot Upgrade Update

TfL London Underground have advised us that they have installed and commissioned a new Sand Silo which will store sand used to keep the rails clear during autumn and winter periods in the Front Lane train depot. The silo is capable of storing at least 3 months of sand which reduces the amount of sand deliveries to the depot. They have also modified the train cleaning shed to accommodate the new trains, equipping the new building to the south-east corner of the depot with a new training room, new boilers/pumps, electrical and mechanical equipment for maintain the trains.

They have further works planned

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Greenfingers Gardening Club

We are a small friendly group who meet in the Cranham Community Centre in Marlborough Gardens on the 1st Monday of the month - if this happens to be a Bank Holiday then we meet on the following Monday instead (no meeting in January and August). Our meetings begin at 7.30pm and we have horticultural speakers, plant swaps etc. Our next meeting is on 4th September and we would be delighted to see you. For more information please phone Sheila on 01708 228752.

Greedy Landlords

Uppercut has been a successful multi award winning hair group having been established for over 40 years. Unfortunately, their Corbets Tey Road salon in Upminster will soon become another empty shop when their lease runs out in September. Owner Trevor Vale told the *Bulletin* "We have fought tirelessly in trying to negotiate a

continued on page 3



starting in July through to next year; no end date has been given. They currently plan to work 8am-6pm Monday to Friday. Their

section 61 agreement with the council allows for 24 hour working; however, the application for 24hr working is only in place as a contingency to any delayed works. In the event of any planned 24hr working, they will notify residents in advance; outlining the location and duration of the activities taking place. Any noise from the works will be controlled by 'Best Practicable Means' in accordance with the Control of Pollution Act 1974.

If you have any queries you can contact London Underground Community Relations:

- Phone: 0343 222 1234 (24 hours)
- Online: tfl.gov.uk/contact
- Write: TfL Customer Services, 4th Floor, 14 Pier Walk, London, SE10 0ES

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new lease at a realistic rent, but our Landlords have increased our rent to such a high level that it is just not achievable, and we have no option than to leave when our lease ends. It's a shame as Upminster used to attract some big names, but unrealistic rents are moving businesses out of the area. Having another empty shop in Upminster does nothing for the once busy High Street. Fortunately, we have other salons nearby, and all our team will continue to have jobs with us. Mia the Manageress of the salon along with senior Stylists Charlotte and Karen will be moving to our Hornchurch salon. Charis will be moving to our Brentwood salon, with Sophie and Joe moving to our Romford salon.

www.uppercuthairgroup.co.uk

Front Lane Car Park

The long-standing challenge of turning right out of Front Lane Car Park has been improved as a result of the Community Payback Team who spent two days cutting back the foliage, ivy and overgrowth from the boundary fence which was restricting the view of traffic coming down the hill towards Cranham Village. Many thanks to the team for this welcome piece of work.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Cranham Is Blooming Again!

Isn't it amazing how quickly the summer planting season comes around? June saw a lot of activity from some of the boroughs young people, helping to make Cranham bloom. The 2nd Cranham Cubs joined me on one of their group nights to plant out the troughs in the Village, they had a short talk from Michael Webb on bee keeping and then carried out a

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litter pick around the shopping area. This was followed a week later by the 1st Cranham Girls Brigade joining me to plant out the bollard planters in Avon Road. None of the helpers went away empty handed, as they each received information about bees and the local area. Thank you to all, who have helped to make the area colourful.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Family Fun Day

Havering Council has organised a "Family Fun Day" on Wednesday 23 August at Macon Way, Cranham, RM14 1NZ. Youth Bus, Sports Games, Bouncy Castle, Face Painting, Arts and Crafts, Games and much more. 10 am to 1pm.

Upminster Building Company Expands

Gidley Building Contractors of Upminster has expanded. According to Director Richard Gidley, the opportunity to merge with the already well-established Bathroom Boutique Ltd, Benfleet was "too good to miss". Along with the current Bathroom Boutique owner Edward Wheeler, also of Upminster, they have created Boutique Design & Build, Incorporating Kitchens, Bathrooms and Building. Their comprehensive range of services include, Extensions, Loft Conversions, Space Creating and refurbishments. The building services are backed up by a pristine bathroom showroom in Benfleet and Kitchen showroom in Harlow both offering full design, supply and installation service from top manufacturers complete with friendly, professional and award winning after care service. For a full range of services or to find out more, visit www.boutiquedesignandbuild.co.uk or call 01268 566065.

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Havering Local Plan – Consultation

The Council are obliged to produce a Local Plan which covers all aspects of planning, housing, design, infrastructure and Green Belt over the next 15 years. The weighty document will be subject to full public consultation and we shall keep you advised and updated on this important matter (see our website at ucra.co.uk). Of particular interest to us is the 72 applications by developers to take land out of the Green Belt to build upon – readers can be assured that we will be taking every step possible to protect our Green Belt from this unwelcome intrusion.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Thames Chase

The children's summer holiday programme will include a variety of activities for all the family on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week from 25th July to 24th August between 10.30am and 12.30pm. The

Thursday activity will explore the wider Broadfields site through drama, dance, craft and nature study.

Wed 9th August - Cycling day from 10am-4pm. Bring your own bike or hire one from the barn. Trialnet's 'Dr Bike' will check your bike and carry out repairs and there will be planned rides, activities and games.

Sun 13th August – afternoon **Family Band Concert** featuring musicians from Eastbury Concert Band and Barking Concert Band. Enjoy a lazy summer afternoon listening to the popular sounds of band music within the surroundings of the Thames Chase Forest Centre. Tickets £5 per person or £15 for a family of four including a complementary Pimms or cocktail fruit juice. Tea, coffee and cake available in the interval for £3.50.

Fri 18th August – our monthly **Musical cream tea** 2.30-4.30pm. Also an evening of traditional jazz in Jazz in the Barn with Dave Browning's Jazz Band from 8-11pm. Tickets £12. Bring your own food and drink.

Wed 23rd – Monday 28th August – **Summer Art and Sculpture Exhibition** 10am-4pm each day. Enjoy work from local artists and sculptors and maybe purchase a

special image on the theme of Local Inspiration. On Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday some of the artists will be demonstrating their skills along with other craftsmen. Free admission.

Frid 25th August – Explore the **Beam Valley and Eastbrookend Country Park** and discover a hidden part of the Community Forest on a guided walk starting at the Millennium Centre, Dagenham Road, RM7 at 10am. **Sat 2nd and Sun 3rd September** – **Harvest Home** celebrating the history of our 17th century threshing barn through drama, music and country crafts and traditions. Free admission. Enjoy a harvest supper in the barn on Saturday. Price to be arranged. For more details visit the website www.thameschase.org.uk

U.C.R.A Coach Outing News

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splendid pier, a lovely sandy beach and a pleasant whiff of malt from the wonderful Adnams Brewery. Southwold also boasts splendid art galleries, fine shops and pubs. See page 22 for booking details.

346 & 347 Bus Routes

About a year ago, TfL were considering radical changes to the 346 and 347 bus routes which would have seen a reduced service. I am pleased to confirm that these changes have now been shelved and won't be going ahead.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Circus Animals

The RSPCA are currently running a campaign to stop the practice of having wild animals perform in circuses. It is considered that the complex needs of wild animals can not be met in a circus environment, with the forced training, often at odds with their natural needs, and their housing,

continued on page 7

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when actually travelling, and when stationary. Havering Council banned Circuses with wild animals around 30 years ago. The only way to stop this unnatural environment for the animals is to boycott those which include wild animals.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

An Idle Engine

Pollution is a key concern for most people, and one area which is often overlooked is that of motorists who park up outside schools or residential areas and leave their engines running for lengthy periods of time causing an unnecessary source of air pollution. It is actually an offence under the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002 to idle your engine when stationary (except for vehicles moving slowly due to road works or congestion; when stopped at traffic lights; vehicles under test or repair; or defrosting a windscreen). A pilot scheme to raise awareness and enforcement of the practice was recently undertaken in the City of

London and is to be rolled out among central London councils with the help of a £127,000 grant from the Mayor of London. If successful, the scheme could be rolled out to outer London boroughs.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Old Chapel, St Mary's Lane

Victorian Family Day

Sunday 20 August 2pm-5pm. Free Entrance. Join our family day celebrating all things Victorian! We have lots of activities including dressing up, Victorian themed crafts and games

Tea and Talks

The Old Chapel hosts monthly Tea and Talk Events. They are free to attend if you are a Friend of the Old Chapel, otherwise £2 per person, and refreshments are included.

Wednesday 9 August, 10.30am – Good Old Days of the East End, Ellen Owen. Walk down the frog and toad, up the apples and pears and hear how the east enders lived post WWII. Booking is required.

To book a place please contact the Heritage Officer on 01708 642919.

Essex and Suffolk Water

Kindly note the following information I obtained from Essex and Suffolk Water "who generally owns the pipes in the road or pavement. This includes the pipe connecting the water main in the street to the stopcock or meter (which we also own) outside your property. We maintain these pipes and pay for repairs.

You (or your landlord) own all the pipes on your property. This includes underground pipes as well as pipes inside the building. You (or your landlord), have to pay for any repairs to pipes and fittings inside the building, as well as repairs to any pipes outside which are not covered by our free repair policy.

If you have a leak in your supply pipe and require assistance please contact 0345 782 0999, for more information."

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Havering Show

On Sunday 27th and Monday 28th August the Havering Show takes place from 11am to 7pm at Harrow Lodge Park, Hornchurch.

On Sunday 27th Kenny Thomas and the ska- reggae band The Dualers appear. On Monday 28th The Blockheads and the legendary Drifters appear. There will also be a Craft Market, Street Food and Fun Fair.

Ardleigh House Trips

Wed 30 Aug 2017 "Day Trip to Brighton with option to ride the British Airways i360" Price £18.50. Our annual trip to the seaside returns to Brighton for 2017, traditionally the favourite venue for a Day Trip. This year we are offering the option to join a group ride on the all new "British Airways i360" on the seafront. Some will not like the height so this group ride is an option. (The additional i360 price - adults £14.40 seniors £12.15.)

Sat 30 Sep 2017 "A Royal Thames Cruise". Price £40.00 (Price includes boat ticket) A Royal cruise along the Thames because our boat is the "Queen Elizabeth" and we will cruise the stretch of the Thames often taken by Henry VIII! We arrive at Hampton Court Palace at 2.00pm where you will have free time to

continued on page 9

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enjoy the river or the area. As an option, we are offering discounted entry tickets for Hampton Court Palace. Ask the Office for these prices, when booking.

Wed 1 Nov 2017 "A Grand Day at the Races" Price £67.50. Spend a day at Kempton Park in the magnificent Pavilion Restaurant with its "Glass wall" giving panoramic views across the whole racecourse. Starting with a behind the scenes tour. Tables seat 4 or 6 so why not bring friends and have your own table. We keep the tables for the whole day so no trouble with finding a seat and the bar remains open until racing finishes. Racing will finish under floodlights and we will leave Kempton Park at 6.30pm for the journey home. See the website: www.ardleighhouse.org or telephone 01708 440660.

Here All Year Round!

With the General Election been and gone (for now!), electioneering and leaflets (for those who received them!) by the mainstream political parties will also disappear - until the next

election. However, the Residents' Association are very committed to keeping a presence in the community all year round - and not just at election time. Our monthly Bulletin goes out to thousands of homes in the area and our website (ucra.co.uk) often exceeds a thousand visits a day. If residents have any questions, concerns or require assistance, please contact any of your RA councillors (...at any time!), the contact details are on page 22.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Ardleigh House Trains

Romford Model Engineering Club run model miniature locomotive trains during the summer months. You are invited to go along and enjoy a ride on a miniature steam or electric powered train for a small fee which helps to boost the club funds. Rides are on the first Saturday of the month from 2pm to 4pm at Ardleigh House in Ardleigh Green Road. Go along and enjoy a ride.

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The Gruffalo at the Queen's Theatre



There's fun to be had by ALL families this summer as everyone's favourite furry monster roars onto the Queen's

Theatre Hornchurch stage from 9 - 12 August, including a Relaxed Performance on Thursday 10 August at 11am.

Join Mouse on a daring adventure through the deep dark wood in search of a nut, meeting the cunning Fox, the eccentric old Owl and the party mad Snake on the way. Will the story of the Gruffalo save Mouse from ending up as dinner for these crafty woodland creatures? Armed with only a nut map and a little courage, Mouse must outwit them all. After all, there's no such thing as a Gruffalo - is there?

The Relaxed Performance welcomes people of all ages who will benefit from a relaxed, quieter and supportive environment including people with an Autism Spectrum Condition, sensory and communication disorders or learning disabilities.

Tickets are £12.50 (£10 for groups of 10+) and can be purchased by calling the Box Office on 01708 443333, in person at the theatre or online at queens-theatre.co.uk. Bookings for the Relaxed Performance can only be made by calling the Box Office, please discuss any specific requirements before booking.

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been working with the National Trading Standards who launched a 'Friends Against Scams' initiative and have been signed up as a regional Ambassador (or SCAMBassador). I have now given about a dozen presentations to the community, big groups and small, with the aim of highlighting the scale of

continued on page 13

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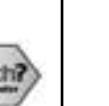
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the problem, changing perceptions of victims along with prevention, support and advice. If any group would like to receive the presentation, please call me on 07863 116029.

CLlr CLARENCE BARRETT

Stubbers SMASH Camps

SMASH Camps at Stubbers Adventure Centre have launched our family and friends weekends, which gives people the opportunity to turn their backs on their normal patterns and enjoy proper quality time with those they love. A fun weekend full of activities from paddle boarding, rifle shooting to archery and marshmallow toasting around the bonfire in the evenings! Enjoy your camping experience either in your own tent or hire one of our family canvas bunkhouses which makes life that little bit more comfortable with 4 bunk beds (8 beds in total) on a raised wooden platform to keep you dry and warm. Cooking facilities are limited so we recommend bringing your camping stove. We will roll out our amazing trail blazer BBQ for you to use, making it a true

camping experience. Find out more at www.smashcamps.co.uk or call 01708 224 753 to book.

Showstoppers! Holiday Club

14th - 18th August 2017 at Cranham Baptist Church, Severn Drive. Come and join in the fun...invite your friends too! Anyone aged 5- 11 years old is welcome. Meeting each morning from 10am - 12:45pm. The cost for the week is £32 per child. If you want to know more and to receive a registration form, please call: 01708 224851. Places are limited so book early!

Hope Bereavement Course

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. Joining a group of like-minded people, such as a HOPE Bereavement Support Course developed by West and Coe may help you. 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 one of our HOPE bereavement courses, starting on Monday Evenings on the 18th September or Friday Mornings starting on the 29th September in Upminster. To find out more contact Linda on 07500 724169 or Email heathandhaveringhope@gmail.com

Shirley Ward Tours

August 17th: Thu: Broadstairs: Folk Week, Morris dancers, lovely beach. Adults £26; OAP £25; Under 16's £18. (2 Coaches going, one family/one Adults). Call for family prices.
August, 22nd, Tue: Southwold Trip, beautiful beach, Suffolk. Price £26; Child £23.00.
November 11th Sat: Lord Mayor's Show: watch Parade from street, then 2 course lunch; + river trip and stay onboard to watch Fireworks. No Coach. Child (3 -14; £32); Adult £35.
December 18th, Mon: Layer Marner Tower, Essex; Tower Tour, 3 course lunch, Xmas concert/candlelight in

church/Dickens Reading, Mulled Wine/mince pie by coach. £72 inclusive. Please contact Shirley Ward 01708 227884 to book all trips or email shirley@shirleytours.co.uk

Upminster Tithe Barn

The Tithe Barn, adjacent to Upminster Hall Playing Fields, Hall Lane, has a rich history going back some 500 years and is now the home of the 'Museum of Nostalgia'. There is a huge range of domestic items from the 1800s along with an array of agricultural machinery. Havering Council's Weights and Measures department recently had a clear out and presented us with a selection of redundant scales used to weigh all manner of things... including pigs! We in turn have consolidated our collection of farm and domestic scales to create a new and better display. We are also looking for volunteers- please email Andrew if you are interested: andrew.skingley@live.co.uk or call Ian Whaley on 01708 500600. The Barn is open on the following days (10.30am to 4pm) and entrance is free - August 5th & 6th, August 19th & 20th, September 2nd & 3rd.

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<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/yvonne-fundraising-page-284>
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Quiz Night

A quiz night is being held at St Laurence Church Main Hall on Saturday 30th September. 7 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Tables of 8; bring your own food and drink. Raising funds for The Children's Society. Tickets cost £6 and are available from Katie Bowman tel: 01708 640133.

Bat & Moth Night

Essex Wildlife Trust on Monday 14th August have arranged a Bat & Moth night. Meet at the entrance to Parklands, Corbets Tey Road RM14 2YG at 8.30 for bats and then onto Cranham Marsh for moths, finishing 10-10.30pm, £3 donation/adult. Contact Tony Loveless 01708 442976. Please bring a torch.

First Step Golf Day

First Step Golf Day, in association with Frontier Voice & Data Ltd is to be held at Theydon Bois Golf

continued on page 17

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Hornchurch District Scouts (charity no.303699) are selling Adventure Island wristbands at discounted prices. Big Adventure bands (over 1.2m tall) are £15 each and Junior/Mini Adventure bands (under 1.2m tall) are £12 each. Also available, Southend Sea-life Adventure tickets Adult/Child £3 each, Adventure Island Golf tickets Adult/Child £3 each, for 18 holes. Wristbands expire November 2017 and are available to purchase now, for any day the park is open. To purchase, just call/ text Debbie on 07805612706 or Louisa on 07498575296. Please allow up to 24 hours from ordering to collection.

Thank You

Thank you to all the local businesses who kindly donated a raffle prize to Blaze of Upminster Majorettes to help them raise money for their Troupe at the recent 20yrs celebration presentation. We would like to thank: Top Meadow, Halo, Sweet Rose Bakery, BMB Electrical, Plastering & Handyman Services, Touch of Design, Manhattan Nails, Roomes Fashion Store, Floral Affairs, David Lloyd, Sea Fish, Cafe 4 You, Beautology, Cranham Tandoori, Smart Gents, Eddie Grimsted and Look aHead. We would also like to thank parents and friends for all their kind donations to make the evening a great success.

Julie - Blaze of Upminster Majorettes

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LOCAL FUTURE EVENTS AUGUST

- 9 Wednesday - **Nelmes Women's Institute** meet on the 2nd Wednesday of every month and welcome new members of all ages. Meetings are held at Nelmes United Reformed Church Hall (corner of Nelmes Road and Burntwood Avenue, Hornchurch, RM11 3JA). Meetings start at 2 pm promptly. Please contact Ruth McDougall on 01708 448431 or Ruth.wellwisher@gmail.com for further details.
- 10 Thursday - **Upminster and Cranham W.I.** are looking for new members. We meet in the St. Laurence Hall (next to the Library) in Upminster on the second Thursday in the month. Doors open at 1.30 pm for a 2 pm start till 4 pm. We have talks on a wide range of subjects. We have lunches, afternoon teas, Outings and more. Why not come along and give us a try and meet new friends. For more information please contact President Margaret Reynolds on 01708 471977.
- 13 Sunday - **OASIS - A 'disability-friendly'** meeting for adults at Cranham Baptist Church, Severn Drive. A traditional Sunday Service is not for everyone! Oasis meetings are accessible, friendly and informal. 3pm - 4:30pm. The Oasis Team can be contacted on: 01708 223551 or 07714 853545
- 14 Monday - **Havering Branch Essex Wildlife Trust** Meetings are held in the 1st floor meeting room in Hornchurch Library from 8.00 pm to 9.45 pm. Donation of £2.50 to help cover hall hire, this includes tea, coffee and biscuits. For more information contact the Secretary Joy Emerson on 01708 440297.
- 15 Tuesday - **Cranham Engayne W.I.** welcomes new members and visitors. Meetings held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2 pm to 4 pm at the Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens.
- 15 Tuesday - **Upminster Camera Club - TONY BRAMLEY FRPS "Principles & Elements of Art in Photography"**. Cranham Community Association, 115a

continued on page 19

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Marlborough Gardens, Upminster, RM14 1SR. 7.45pm.

www.upminstercameraclub.org.uk

- 17 Thursday - **Upminster Wine and Social Club** meet on the third Thursday of the month at 8 pm in the Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane, Cranham. We hold meetings every month with a variety of speakers and wine tasting. For more information contact Maureen Jasper on 01708 223956, or simply come along on the night. You will be most welcome.
- 18 Friday - **Haverling Antique and Collectors Club** meet at the Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood. The talk will start at 7.30 pm for 8 pm start. Guests £4. For further details please call our Chairman Mrs Chris Lovett 07947 367258.
- 19 Saturday - **Stewart Allotments Gate Sale** 10 am - 12 noon selling Fresh seasonal produce, home made jams, chutneys, marmalades and cakes.
- 19 Saturday - **Upminster Tithe Barn Museum of Nostalgia**, Hall Lane, Upminster 10.30 am to 4 pm.
- 20 Sunday - **Upminster Tithe Barn Museum of Nostalgia**, Hall Lane, Upminster 10.30 am to 4 pm.
- 23 Wednesday - **Upminster Park Towns Womens Guild** meet on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 2 pm to 4 pm in Derham Hall (behind Upminster Library), Upminster. Afternoon tea, talks and outings amongst a friendly group of ladies, all most welcome. For more information contact Deborah Pryor on 01708 226127 or Ann Monk on 01708 226305 or simply come along.
- 28 Monday - **Breathe Easy - Haverling** meet at St Andrews Church, Hornchurch, in aid of the British Lung Foundation on the last Monday of the month. The meetings run from 1.30 - 3pm, £3 donation is appreciated. We are a support group for people with COPD, Asthma or other Breathing Difficulties. For details please ring Joyce on 01708 226696 or Elaine on 01708 509127.
- 30 Wednesday - **Upminster and District Probud Club** meet at The Cranleigh, 84 Station Road, Hornchurch, RM12 6LX. Mel Rees on "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way". Contact Barry on 01708

703783 and leave a message or send an email secretary@upminsterprobud.com.

SEPTEMBER

- 2 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 Road, Upminster RM14 2SJ doors open at 1pm meeting starts at 2pm. The Internet & Technology Group meet at the same venue 11am - 1pm. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both.
- 2 Saturday - **Upminster Tithe Barn Museum of Nostalgia**, Hall Lane, Upminster 10.30 am to 4 pm.
- 2 Saturday - **British Sugar Craft** Royal Iced Flowers, demonstrated by Sally Brown 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm at Fairkytes Art Centre, Billet Lane, Hornchurch, Entry Price is £7 includes Tea and Cake.
- 3 Sunday - **Upminster Tithe Barn Museum of Nostalgia**, Hall Lane, Upminster 10.30 am to 4 pm.
- 5 Tuesday - **Upminster Camera Club - THEME IN A HAT** Judge: Howard King. Cranham Community Association, 115a Marlborough Gardens, Upminster, RM14 1SR. 7.45pm.
- 5 Tuesday - **Oglethorpe Women's Institute** There will be a demonstration of Make Up by guest speaker Kay Ball. Our meetings are held at Cranham Social Hall, 103 Front Lane, RM14 1XL on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.45 pm. Visitors are always welcome.
- 6 Wednesday - **Harold Wood Evening W.I.** meet on the 1st Wednesday on the month at the War Memorial Hall in Gubbins Lane 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm start. Our September speaker is Norma Jennings on The Ladies of Romford market. Visitors welcome entrance is £2.50, which includes refreshments. For more details please ring Joanne on 0787 5670419.
- 6 Wednesday - **Keep Fit 50+** restarting and weekly during school term time. St Laurence Church Hall 2-3.30. Friendly group, tea/social break. Work to your own ability. Qualified Tutor. Come along and give it a try. First class FREE. Chris Bannister 01277 211050 chrisbannister104@btinternet.com

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'Churches Together' Does it Again!

Revellers at the WEAREFSTVL on their way home were served over 1000 free bottles of water and hot drinks, given travel advice, toilet facilities, care and all manner of help by over 30 Christians, part of 'Churches Together', assisted by Havering Street Pastors and Street Watch members. From a stall at Trinity Church, Station Road, thousands of festival-goers, on route to the station, had conversations with crowds of tired but polite, appreciative young adults. A great local community success story!

Paul Thompson
Leader of King's Church,
Upminster

New Trees

Many thanks to Councillor Linda Hawthorn for getting a record number again of new Street Trees

in the area. We get so many comments from friends and relatives when they visit us on how nice the trees look. Its great we have Residents' Councillors who are active all year not just when there is an election coming up. May I urge residents to give our trees some water in hot weather.

Peter Harrison. Gaynes Park Road

Tennis Mens Essex Cup Final

Cranston Park's men's 2nd team Captain (Marlon Billings) and his doubles partner Trevor Higgs won maximum sets in their matches, only dropping just 8 games and winning 24. Cranston Park's 2nd pair Adam Gray and Matt Edwards won two sets which gave Cranston Park an overall victory of 6 sets to 2 in the men's semi-final of the Essex Indeterminate Summer Cup. It was a very hot Father's Day Sunday morning last week when we played. We all battled with the heat, but the determination of the team to come through the other side, by far overshadowed all other factors. Our match lasted 3 hours and we were all so pleased when we got the win. We are all thoroughly looking forward to the final at Billericay Tennis club on Sunday 9th July.

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Cranham Marsh

People often ask me how Cranham Marsh does in spells of dry weather like the one we are in at the moment. The answer is that it does suffer, but not as badly as you might expect, because it is fed by a supply of ground water that is more constant than the surface water that enters via the ditches. This flows out of the gravels under the fields to the north and east and is the reason why it stays green even through dry summers. It is

also probably the reason why Cranham Marsh has survived while all the surrounding land has been converted to arable - because it was always regarded as too wet to plough. At present the two fields at the western end of the reserve, i.e. the ones you come to first if you enter from the footpath at the end of Park Drive, are covered with flowers - the reddish-purple of betony in the first and the creamy-

continued on page 22

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(07863 116029)
www.ucra.co.uk

white of meadowsweet in the second – and should still be like that when you read this. Worth a visit just for that, I'd say.

Tony Gunton

<http://www.wildessex.net/>

DIARY

August

No Upminster Ward Meeting

No Cranham Ward Meeting

Coach Outing

16 September Saturday

Cranham Social Committee's coach trip to SOUTHWOLD Leaving the Bell School Upminster at 9am after usual pick ups. A variety of attractions in this traditional seaside town from history & culture to fine eateries and exceptional shopping. Tickets are £15.00 each and bookable from Monday 7th August. Please call Mrs Thelma Bezant 01708 226815 between 7pm and 9pm.

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Articles - 1st Month/Advertising - 3rd Month

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