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UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Budget Update



Since the last round of budget savings, the government have announced further large scale reductions to our grant. This, together with a growing population, hugely increased costs associated with social care for the elderly, housing, children's services and waste management has meant that the council's projected budget shortfall over the next three years is £16.3 million.

There are plans in place to balance the books, but it does mean making some difficult decisions, however viable alternatives are few and far between. For example, if we can reduce costs associated with waste disposal (we pay £13m a year) by limiting how much we throw away, look at sources of renewable energy, economise further on back office services, improve debt collection and innovate on customer care, we can, together, get through this period of austerity. However, one chink of light on the horizon is that the Olympic Levy will largely come to an end next year! Residents can be absolutely assured we will do our very best to minimise the impact on your services and maintain the standards of amenity you deserve. The budget proposals will be out for consultation through the usual channels and on our website, but if any readers have questions or would like to share ideas, please feel free to get in touch with me.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Update on Speed Checks



In the past two months Upminster and Cranham Police have been out checking speeds in some of the roads identified by residents as those where speeding takes place regularly. Roads have included Front Lane, Corbets Tey Road, Ockendon Road, Roseberry Gardens, Gaynes Park Road and Ingrebourne Gardens. 557 cars were checked for speed and 32 were stopped and warned about exceeding the speed limit. All cars stopped have their registration number taken and sent letters warning them of their speed with accident statistics linked to speed. In most cases the drivers are from the local area. These checks will continue and Street Watch Members will be out with the police in this activity.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE



Springfield Gardens



We are very proud to have so many tree lined roads in the borough. Over the years we have successfully campaigned for more trees to be installed locally.

Indeed following repeated requests from my Council colleague Linda Hawthorn the area has had more trees planted than the rest of the borough put together over the last few years.

We were very concerned in October to receive calls and emails that trees in Springfield Gardens were being cut down. The Annual display of the flowering trees is spectacular. I immediately contacted the Council and have received the following reply: "Dear Councillor Ower The trees in Springfield Gardens have been removed due to severe rot at the base, outside 27 there was severe rot in the root plate and the tree leaned towards the house; this could have failed and could have caused damage to the residents property or injury to pedestrians, also at 29 the tree had severe rot in the main stem, outside no 3 also had rot in the base and fungal brackets. We have also removed a tree on the corner of Fairfield Avenue due to rot at the base that could have failed. All the trees that have been removed will be put on the planting list to be replaced with Prunus (Cherry)."

We are concerned that local residents were

continued on page 2

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not warned that trees were going to be removed and we have requested that the trees be replaced as soon as possible.

Cllr RON OWER

Fenchurch Street Station



Over the years the Rail companies have made huge improvements to Fenchurch Street Station. The C2C

service in the UK is second to none. However, I received a rather distressing letter recently, from an elderly lady travelling home alone late at night from London. She changed at Tower Hill, and walked to Fenchurch Street, only to find it shut, and had to walk back again. I took this up with C2C who agreed that an announcement should have been made warning passengers

to stay on the underground. At night, C2C often run services to Upminster from Liverpool Street. They display the dates and times on their advice poster boards on the platforms and in the booking office area. They are planning more services to Liverpool Street also via Stratford. I would urge you to check when you are making your outward journeys, where and when the return journeys start. The electric display board clearly shows the stops with the departing times.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Update on Upminster Taproom

The owners of the Taproom had submitted an application for a Prior Approval to change the use of 1b Sunnyside Gardens to a café, which would operate from 9 am. This was to be a permanent change primarily to bridge the time gap between now and the outcome of the planning appeal. This application was made under

relatively new legislation which does not allow for call-in to committee and is dealt with by officers on the merits of the case, and they have notified the council they will open as a café on 20th November. A number of objections were made. Following discussions with the officers, the owners withdrew that application as planning rules allow for a temporary change of use for a single continuous period of two years. The owners are intending to pursue that route. Given they do have a premises license (sale of alcohol) the café may serve alcohol, although this should be with food.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Christmas Float Routes

Havering East Rotary Club, with the help of Upminster 41 Club, will once again be bringing joy to young and old in Upminster and Cranham. Monies raised during this period will be donated to local charities such as First Step, St Francis Hospice, Dycourts School and Riding for Disabled.

Fri 11th Dec: Springfield Gdns, Roxburgh, Rushmere, Meadow Way area.

Sun 13th Dec: Elm Ave, Beech, Oak, Maple, Southview area

Mon 14th Dec: Little Gaynes, Grove, Parklands, Huntsman area

Wed 16th Dec: Moor Lane, Queens, Cranham Gdns, Roseberry Gdns area

Thurs 17th Dec: Deyncourt, Courtenay, Grosvenor, Marlborough area

Fri 18th Dec: Chester, Peterborough, Winchester, Rectory area

Sun 20th Dec: Moor Ln, Heron Way, Swan, Limerick Gns area*

Mon 21st Dec: Bridge Av, Highview, Cranborne, Boundary, Brookdale

Wed 23rd Dec: Park Drive, Cranston Park, Melstock area

Thurs 24th Dec: Severn Drive, Fleet, Isis, Stour, Humber area

Float starts 4.00 pm on

Sundays/Christmas Eve,

otherwise 6.15pm.

More information on our

Facebook page

[https://www.facebook.com/Havering-East-Rotary-Club-](https://www.facebook.com/Havering-East-Rotary-Club-156893341092632/)

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or

continued on page 3

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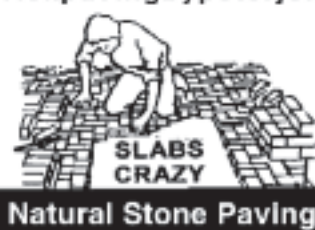
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Christmas Services

Please note the following Christmas services at Upminster Trinity United Reformed Church, Station Road, Upminster:

13th December: 9:30 am Nativity & Parade Service
20th December: 9:30 am Christingle Service
20th December: 6:30 pm Carols by Candlelight
24th December: 7 pm Pyjama Service (for families)
24th December: 11:15 pm Midnight Communion Please note at Upminster Methodist Church
25th December: 10 am Family Christmas Service

Fabulous Concerts

Bach by Candlelight at St Laurence Parish Church, Upminster. Friday evenings

during Advent 19.30 - 20.30

December 4th
Suite no.1 in G major BWV 1007, Nun komm' der Heiden Heiland BWV 659-661
Suite no.3 in C major BWV 1009.

December 11th
Suite no.2 in d minor BWV 1008, Schübler Chorales BWV 645-650, Suite no.5 in c minor 1011.

December 18th
Suite no.4 in E flat major BWV 1010
Vom Himmel hoch da komm' ich her BWV 769
Suite no.6 in D major BWV 1012, Alex Rolton, Cello; Richard Brasier, Organ;
Free admission (retiring collection).

Upminster Crime Information

There has been a reduction in crime generally in the past two months. Residential burglaries are down from 10 to 7, with no attempted burglaries. Unfortunately non-residential

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burglaries have gone up from 7 to 13 with the majority being from garages and sheds. These have included power tools. The message is to ensure these out houses are kept secure. Whilst there has been a reduction of motor vehicle crime from 17 to 11, many were the theft of number plates. Anti-theft screws can be bought from Halfords. Shoplifting has also reduced from 14 to 5. The police team have been working hard to get crime prevention messages out to residents and this will continue.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

West Lodge Site Again

Kindly note following the Council's refusal to give Planning permission on a further six flats at the above site, formerly West Lodge in Corbets Tey Road. The Government's Planning Inspectorate also dismissed an appeal and confirmed that Planning Permission will not be given.

Upminster Library

Please note the following events at the Library Dates for December

Holistic Massage
Friday 11 December - 12noon - 4.30pm
£10 pre treatment (lasts 15 minutes)
£35.00 full body massage (aprox 1 hour)
Booking essential as spaces are very limited.

Mini Pamper
Friday 11 December - 12noon - 4.30pm
Callus peel - £15
Shellac - £15
Shape and polish - £10
other treatments available please contact the library
Booking essential as spaces are very limited.

Christmas Craft
Saturday 12 December
Join us and make Christmas decorations
11am-12 noon
Suitable for ages 3+ years
£3.00 library members £4.50 non

continued on page 4

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Indian Head Massage - £15 for 30 min

Oriental Facial Rejuvenation

Massage - £15 for 30 min

other treatments available please contact the library

Booking essential as spaces are very limited.

Winter Workshop

Wednesday 16 December

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6pm

Suitable for adults

£25.00 library members £27.00

non members

Booking essential as spaces are limited.

Christmas Story time and Craft

Thursday 17 December

Come along and listen to our stories

10.30am

Suitable for ages 3+ years

FREE

Booking essential

Coffee and Mince Pies

Thursday 24 December

Join the staff of Upminster Library for our annual Christmas coffee morning.

10am-12 noon

Contact Upminster Library 01708

434933

upminster.library@haverling.gov.uk

Christmas Collections

Club members from Hornchurch and Upminster Rotary Club will be collecting for local charities as follows: outside the Post Office in Station Road between 10am and 5pm on the 19th, 22nd, 23rd and 24th of December. Between 6 and 8pm on Wednesday the 23rd of December there will be a mobile collection starting in Sunnyside Gardens and continuing in Argyle Gardens, New Place Gardens, Cedar Gardens, Tudor Gardens, Garbutt Road, Howard Road, Branfil Road, Champion Road, ending in St Lawrence Road.

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'Design a Christmas Card' Competition at Corbets Tey School



The winning card design by Neel from Cherry class.

Pinney Talfourd teamed up with local special needs school Corbets Tey School for their 'Design a Christmas Card 2015' Competition this month.

Neel of Cherry class won first prize with a colourful paint design of a penguin using his footprint. It will now be used for Pinney Talfourd's Christmas card and Neel will receive a toy of his choice. The *Bulletin* were also delighted to offer a prize to the runner up Rhys of Palm class for his Santa and sleigh collage.

Client Services Partner, Catherine Polli, said "Thank you to everyone at the school for

your time and effort. The children were an absolute delight to work with. We are also thrilled that the *Bulletin* has donated a prize again this year as there are always so many great entries it is hard to choose just one winner."

Pinney Talfourd will also give a donation to the school for their help in organising this annual event.



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Shop Local

Saturday 5th December is 'Small Business Saturday', a national campaign based initiative which promotes and supports small and independent businesses in our community while encouraging consumers to 'Shop Local'. With the growth of internet shopping, giant shopping centres and multiple chain stores, it is encouraging to see that we still have a wide variety of local independent shops and retailers. They not only provide a welcome range of choice, quality and good value, but they also give our shopping centre and parades a unique identity. What better way to start off Christmas shopping than 'Shop Local' Saturday!

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

their patrons a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. We are very grateful for your ongoing support and hope to run a full program of coach trips in 2016 which will be featured in the *Bulletin* next year. UCRA Social Committee would like to express their warmest wishes to **Mrs Fiona Cook** and thank her for her valuable contribution to the team. Her dedication greatly benefited the Committee for over 25 years and we would like to wish her well for the future in her new home.

Phase 3 School Expansion Programme

Over recent months there have been a number of proposals that have come forward with regard to school expansions in the borough due to increased birth rates and a small element of movement into the borough. For Upminster and Cranham the

continued on page 7

Coach Outings

The members of the U.C.R.A Social Committee (coach outings) would like to wish all

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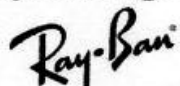
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Allan Carey

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discussions were around Engayne and James Oglethorpe. On 4th November the Cabinet agreed outline proposals to expand James Oglethorpe Primary School by half form of entry along with the expansion of Parsonage Farm, Crownfield Infants & Juniors, St. Peter's Catholic and Broadford Primary Schools. There is on-going work as there is need for further expansion and an additional form of entry in the Upminster, Cranham and Romford areas.

A long awaited Special Educational Needs strategy and new 16-25's SEN provision based at Avelon Road by September 2016, were also agreed. This will support those families who have had to seek alternative provision out side of the borough. The principle of expanding school nurseries as part of the Early Education Entitlement, and the authorisation of feasibility studies to be carried out for Phase 4 expansion of secondary schools, were both agreed.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

News from Thames Chase

The forest in winter has a charm of its own and Thames Chase community Forest has plenty of space to walk off the Christmas excesses or those winter blues. At the Forest Centre we will be celebrating the festive season with: Sunday 13th December 10am-4pm - **Christmas Celebration** with live music from local musician and North Ockendon hand-bell ringers, Christmas treats from the Forest Centre Cafe, that last minute present from a range of craft stalls and ending with carols with Cranham, North Ockendon and Upminster Churches Together at 3.30pm. There will also be children's crafts throughout the day. Entrance-free. Sunday 20th December 11am-1pm - **A Celebration of Christmas** in music and verse for all the family. Entrance -free. The Forest Centre will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Wintertime Blues

We are now well and truly into Autumn and Wintertime and we would ask you all to look out for our elderly and vulnerable neighbours and residents in our community in this cold, dark and depressing time of year. If it only takes a few minutes of your time to speak to them, it could indeed make their day!

Cllr DARREN WISE

Residents miss out on Dartford Crossing Discount

It was recently reported that Thurrock and Dartford residents have saved £1 million per year thanks to the Dartford Crossing local resident discount scheme which offers users, against a standard charge of £2.50 per crossing, unlimited crossings for £20 per year or £10 for 50 crossing with additional journeys at 20p

each. While eligibility is restricted to residents of those two councils, it appears unfair and somewhat bizarre that residents in Corringham, Thurrock (10 miles from crossing), should benefit while residents in Upminster (7 miles) do not. Similarly, residents of New Barn in Dartford are entitled to the discount at 6 miles distance, but residents in Rainham at a mere 4 miles are not! A similar argument can be made from near neighbours in Crayford, Bexley. The easiest way to remove these oddities is to remove the toll entirely, which was promised back in 2002 when the cost of the crossing was fully repaid. In the meantime, I have written to the Department of Transport asking for a review of the scheme to make it fairer. I shall keep readers updated.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Cranham Art Society

Would you like to try your hand at painting and make some new

continued on page 9

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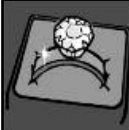
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friends?

We are looking for new members to join our long established friendly group who meet on Wednesday mornings 10 - 12 at Cranham Community Centre in Marlborough Gardens. We will be starting a beginners group on January 6th and whether you are an absolute beginner or have some experience you will be made very welcome. For further details call Dot on 01708 229 715



Please note the Old Chapel has the following events this month
Wednesday 2nd December, 3.00pm - 5.30pm - Creative Craft Session: Come along and make Christmas themed treats. £3 per child, suitable for ages 4 plus no need to book.
Tuesday 8th December, 2.00pm onwards - Christmas Carol Concert
The Chamber Choir from Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School will be

performing at this special Carol Concert for the local community. Festive refreshments will also be served. Please call Gemma Smith on 01708 222660 or email gsmith@mary.havering.sch.uk to confirm your attendance, free entry (suggested donation of £2).

Christmas Services

Special Christmas Services at St Andrew's Church, Hornchurch
Sunday 13th Dec will be our Parade/Nativity/Toy service at **10.15am** when we tell the Christmas Story and bring presents to donate to needy children.
Sunday 20th Dec is our Christingle Service at **10.15am** when we receive a Christingle orange and support the work of the Children's Society and at **6.30pm** you can come to our Nine Lessons and Carols by candlelight service.
Thursday 24th Dec will be our traditional candle-lit Christmas Eve Midnight Communion

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Friday 25th Dec there is a Christmas Day Family Communion service at **10.15am**. Please come and celebrate Jesus' birthday at any of these services!

Abigail's Column

Have a Caring Christmas



Often we hear about how Christmas is a happy time just for children but in fact that is wrong,

Christmas is not always happy for children and adults can enjoy it too!

Around this time reports of old people being alone are common but we don't hear very much about the young people who are in a similar position. Many young people have exams just before or after Christmas that they are worried about, they could be missing important people from

their lives, they might not have a happy home life, they could have worries about money, problems at school or with friends, etc. Generally we expect young people to be happy and excited so if you see someone that isn't maybe we could offer them a bit of kindness. A shoulder to cry on, some of your time, or a little present could really help make someone's Christmas a little bit better.

If you are one of those young people and need someone to talk to remember there is always the ChildLine helpline on 0800 1111. Wishing you all a happy Christmas.

Wesley Guild

The Wesley Guild's only meeting in December will take the form of an "Antiques and Memorabilia Quiz", conducted by Ann Willmore, on Thursday 10 December at Upminster Methodist Church, Minor Hall at 2pm with refreshments available from 1.30pm.

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Sending Christmas Cards

The decline in sending traditional Christmas cards may well be due to email and social media, but even the cost of a 2nd class stamp (54p) often exceeds the price of a card. Why not have a seasonal postage stamp at, say 30p, which would promise delivery in a week instead of a couple of days? That way charities would continue to benefit from card sales and the tradition of sending Christmas cards could be passed on to future generations.

CLlr CLARENCE BARRETT

Wednesday Music Evenings

Wednesday 2nd - Make Way For Music: Remembering the BBC Northern Dance Orchestra

Local musician Brian Luck fondly remembers the sheer professionalism and enthusiasm of the NDO from their of the

regular broadcasts on BBC radio between 1956 and 1974. Brian will be playing recordings of highlights from the band's repertoire and is sure you will enjoy the evening.

Wednesday 16th - A Programme of Seasonal Music & Readings

As always, this evening's yuletide programme contains a seasonal mix of items associated with Christmas from this and other countries as chosen by several of our regular presenters. Hot punch and mince pies will be served in the interval.

Meetings start at 7.30pm 1st Floor Hornchurch Library. Admission is free contribution towards interval drinks please.

These are great nights

Charity Bike Ride for Prostate Cancer

Following being found to have Prostate Cancer and a year's treatment under Queens Hospital,



Oncology dept. (Who were brilliant).

Nicci Rolfe, my lovely step daughter decided to organise a charity bike ride for family and friends for the prostate charity. Sunday 1st November the family of thirty plus ranging from 5 to 65 years took to their bikes for the 15 mile round trip ride. Nicci arranged everything with banners, balloons and flags from Prostate Cancer Charity. Refreshments and medals were given out and Paula Dunn took the fabulous photos.

The target for the day was £250 but the total has passed over a thousand and still rising. Well done to everyone that took part and a massive thanks from me.

John Dunn

Your Community Centre

Cranham Community Centre has so much to offer please feel free to come along and see what is going on in your busy Community Centre. We have bowls, keep-fit in retirement, pilates classes, art, bingo, ballet, darts, table tennis, dog training, happy tots, pre-school, rooms for hiring etc., and a great library that also has jigsaws and dvds. There is so much going on, you should give us a call, or call in.

Cranham Community Association, Marlborough Gardens, Cranham. Telephone 01708 220 941.

Shirley's Tours

Shirley, who organises a wide range of trips, has the following on offer: **February 10th: Kinky Boots**

continued on page 13

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Also in June proposed trip to **Legoland**. If you are interested contact Shirley. Also possible 2016 Theatre trips to see: **Funny Girl** (Sheridan Smith), Disney Musical Aladdin. Please contact Shirley Ward 01708 227 884, or e mail [shirley@shirleytours.co.uk]shirley@shirleytours.co.uk or drop a stamped addressed envelope to 15 Worcester Avenue, Cranham Upminster Essex RM14 3LB to get current list of trips.

Hornchurch Football Club

Please note the following home fixtures at the Stadium, Bridge Avenue. Saturday 5th v Bury Town; Tuesday 8th v Tilbury (Kick

Off 7.45pm). Saturday 19th v Waltham Abbey and on Saturday 2nd January v Witham Town. Saturday kick off all at 3pm. Go along and support your local team.

Christmas Treasure

The Christmas Store is now open at the S & A Wedding and Party Shop rear of High House Garden Centre, Corbets Tey Road Village. As their Advert reads on page 10 it's like an Aladdins Cave-the shop is full of wonderful Christmas goodies.

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We have been asked by the local Police Teams to remind residents to be safe and secure in these dark winter months. At night please:
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CLlr DARREN WISE

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continued on page 15

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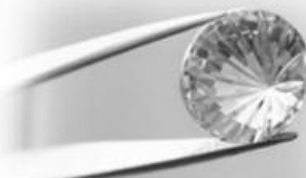
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But it's not only about raising money, it's also to remind people what we are celebrating on 25th December. I find it so sad that Christmas is now all about Santa Claus and commercialism, instead of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, but, we in the Parish of Hornchurch like to be 'old school' and we love to sing proper Christmas Carols to remind people about the 'reason for the season'! So if you also love to sing carols please join us on Saturday 19th December between 12 and 1pm in the grounds of the Fatling and Firkin pub as we sing all the classics! You don't need a great voice, just lots of enthusiasm!
www.parishofhornchurch.co.uk

Capella Singers Concert

The Cappella Singers of Upminster are presenting their Christmas Concert on Friday 11th December 2015, at 8.00 p.m., at Trinity United Reformed Church, Station Road, Upminster. The programme includes Carols for the congregation. Tickets at £10 inclusive of light refreshments may be purchased on the door or in advance from Mr. Ian Pirie (01708 641718).

Brugge Christmas Markets

Ardleigh House Community Association, Hornchurch, have planned the following visit on **Sunday 13th December:** In the heart of winter, the entire city of Brugge sparkles and glows with the festive spirit. Christmas stalls, Ice skating rink, Ferris wheel and Christmas atmosphere a plenty, that's Brugge at Christmas and all the shops will

be open. Christmas carols fill the air as the skaters glide around the ice rink at the centre of the Brugge Christmas Market. We are offering, as an optional extra, a visit to 'The Choco Story.' We have booked a guide to explain and guide us through the chocolate making process and explain some of the history behind Belgium chocolate over the centuries. At the end of our visit you will be given a free 500gms sample to take home. After 'The Choco Story' tour you will have approx. 2.5 hrs of free time. For further details please contact Charlotte Murphy on 01708 440 660.

One Christmas Past

Upminster resident and prolific Indie author Peter Larnar published his tenth novel in November. One Christmas Past is set in East Seaxe and Haeferingas – or Essex and Havering as they are now known – in 999AD. The work of fiction is based on

historical facts and contains references to several local landmarks. The book contains a riddle for its readers to solve. Once you have solved the puzzle, you are invited to contact the author direct on Twitter. The prize is to become a character in Larnar's next book, which will be published next year. Peter Larnar's novels are renowned for containing local people's names in anagrammatic form. Indeed, a parishioner of St. Joseph's church in Upminster is included in One Christmas Past, as one was in his earlier work Covenant of Retribution. One Christmas Past is an adventure story for all age groups and makes a great gift for Christmas. It is available at Swan Books in Upminster.

Christmas Wishes

Christmas 2012 was a desperate time as our youngest daughter had been diagnosed with Ewing's

continued on page 17

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sarcoma, a bone cancer affecting children and young people aged 10 - 24.

Sophie, a bright 18 year old, suffered pains in her foot, especially at night. Weeks passed with intermittent pain but when a lump appeared, we sought medical advice. Months later came the devastating diagnosis. The cancer had already spread from her bones to her lungs and dark days followed - survival rates for bone cancer have seen little improvement in 20 years.

Gruelling treatment including a below knee amputation ensued and she has thankfully recovered. Earlier diagnosis would have eased her journey but ignorance (ours included) prevented that. We desperately need to raise awareness among young people, parents and GP's who are unlikely to see such cases in their career and improve outcomes for those with bone cancer.

That's what I will be wishing for this Christmas.

For more information -
 Visit: bonecancerresearch.org.uk
 Email: info@bcrt.org.uk Tel: 0113 258 5934

Facebook: Bone Cancer Research Trust
 Twitter: @BCRT

Charity Fight Night



Local Physio Gary Carr of Excel physiotherapy. (physio) in

Cranham. has put himself into a boxing night to raise money for a charity close to his heart.

The event is on 10th December with more details at:
www.justgiving.com/boxingforoscar

Havering Singers

Christmas Concert- 19 December 7.30pm. A concert of traditional and contemporary music to celebrate Christmas. St Michael's Church, Main Road, Gidea Park, RM2 5EL. Seasonal refreshments available in the hall afterwards
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Christmas at the Queen's

Pinney Talfourd has once again teamed up with the Queen's Theatre, Hornchurch, to host "Christmas at the Queen's" on Friday 11 December (11am-1pm).

We are delighted that the Dawn Chorus will be singing a range of upbeat Christmas songs including "Let it Snow" and "Jingle Bells". The Mayor of Havering, Cllr Brian Eagling, will attend to join in the fun.

Whilst free, there will be a raffle in aid of the Queen's Theatre Charitable Trust and Pinney Talfourd's own charity of the year "Bertie's Battle". Local businesses have rallied to support the event by donating some fabulous prizes for the raffle.

After all the excitement, you are welcome to stay for a coffee and cupcakes courtesy of Pinney Talfourd.

Booking is now open so call the Queen's Theatre Box Office on 01708 443333 to reserve your space or visit www.pinneytalfourd.co.uk for more details.

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LOCAL FUTURE EVENTS DECEMBER

5 Saturday - **The Upminster Infant & Junior School Christmas Bazaar** from 11 am - 2 pm. We will have games for the children, face painting and nail painting as well as stalls for the adults. There will also be a BBQ and mince pies and mulled wine available.

5 Saturday - Come and meet **Santa and Frozen Characters.** St Josephs Primary School Christmas Bazaar, 12 to 2 pm. Great selection of stalls. Big draw with lots of prizes.

5 Saturday - **Christmas Market** at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm. Morning coffee and cakes from 10.00 am to 12 noon and ploughman's lunches from 12 noon to 2 pm. All the usual stalls and beautiful hand-made gifts. Entry is free and for only £1 children can visit Santa in his magical grotto and receive a present. All proceeds from the Christmas Market will be divided equally between the church and St. Francis Hospice.

5 Saturday - **The Havering Branch of the East of London Family History Society** hold meetings 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 'History of Stained Glass Windows' with Chris Parkinson. The Computer Group meets at the same venue 11am - 1pm. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both.

5 Saturday- **Ravenscourt Nursing Home Christmas Bazaar.** 2pm to 4pm at the Home in Ravenscourt Grove, Hornchurch. Stalls. Lots of entertainment.

- 6 Sunday - The Children's Society **Christingle Service**, 3.00 pm at St Laurence Church, Upminster. A candle-lit service suitable for all ages. All welcome.
- 8 Tuesday **NADFAS Havering** welcome Mrs Frances Hughes with a talk on "The Old Vic: The Story of a Great Theatre". Coffee and mince pies from 10.00 am. Lecture at 10.45 am. Visitors welcome at £6. Meetings held at The New Windmill Hall, St. Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QH. Further details of forthcoming lectures, speakers and visits can be found at www.haveringdfas.org.uk
- 8 Tuesday - **Upminster Horticultural Society** have a Guest Lecture "on 60 years in Horticulture" by Jim Buttress. Jim is a very popular speaker in Havering. He holds the highest award in the gardening world. 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. For further information on Upminster Horticultural Society see our website www.upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk or info@upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk
- 9 Wednesday - **Upminster Townswomen's Guild** have guest speaker John Whitehead talking on "Laughter on the Air". Come along and join us with Mince Pies and Sherry, at 1.45 pm in St Laurence Church, Derham Hall, Upminster. For more details phone Shirley on 01708 224219 or Bertha on 01708 222410.
- 11 Friday - **Coffee & Conversation** are having **Coffee & Mince pies with Festive**

continued on page 24

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Christmas in Cranham



Christmas will be different in Cranham this year so get ready! Supporting Little Havens Hospice, The Plough is hosting

ice skating - £5.00 Children, £8.00 Adults for half an hour, Santa's Grotto £5.00, Christmas Market, Merry-Go-Round, donkeys and music. Posters with full details are on the notice boards and in shop windows.

We will be running the best Christmas Decorated Shop and on Sunday 13th December at the Front Lane Social Centre there will be a Christmas Fancy Dress Competition at 2.00pm and at 3.00pm Cranham Bake Off, best decorated cake, open to all ages (you can buy a cake and decorate if you cannot bake!) £1.00 competition entrance fee. Come and share in the Christmas spirit whilst supporting the good cause of Little Havens Hospice. For further information please

call 01708 641317.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Christmas Message

Shopping - you either love it or hate it! Either way, we all know that shopping centres will be busy from now until the end of January when Christmas and the sales are finally over.

And I wonder how many of our purchases will still be in use, or even remembered? Such is our society, that our thinking is so often short-term, and we quickly dispose of items. replacing them with something better or newer. It is sadder still when we bring this short-term thinking into our relationships. But the message of Christmas offers us a lasting alternative. The eternal God came down into our world to show us the way of love. May you encounter him this Christmas, know his love for you, and share that love with others. You are welcome to join us at any of the churches in the area this Christmas. For details, please see the advert elsewhere in *The Bulletin*.

Rev. Mark Davison
On behalf of Churches Together

in Upminster, Cranham and North Ockendon

The Junction pub reopens

The pub on Station Road, formerly The Essex Yeoman, has reopened as the Junction. Havering's Deputy Mayor, was invited to cut the ribbon. The Junction has received a complete makeover, introducing a lighter colour scheme with some signature pieces of furniture and contemporary fixtures. The bar area has also been completely revamped, with the introduction of an extended selection of local and national ales and world beers. The food offering has also been updated, with a new autumn menu.

2nd Upminster Brownies

We are desperately looking for volunteers to help run our unit and I was wondering whether you could help. We are based at St Laurence Church (Derham Hall) in Upminster and we meet on Tuesdays 5.00pm - 6.30pm. We are quite a large unit and are looking to expand so we can accept more girls on our ever growing waiting list so as you can

imagine all the help we can get is very much appreciated. Please contact me on 07951 520 343.

Vikki Rance

127 Avon Road

An application to turn the St Francis Hospice furniture shop in Avon Road into a restaurant has been granted permission despite a petition objecting to the proposal, signed by 323 people, 4 letters of objection and representation by a ward Councillor. Opening hours granted are from 10:00 to 23:00 from Monday to Sunday, including bank holidays. There is to be a single storey rear extension, wc, kitchen, prep area and storage developed. The plans show table and seating cover for 60 customers at any one time.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Windmill Quiz Night

Although our Windmill is now closed for two years, for restoration, and the building of an education centre/ museum, we do not want people to forget it - so our popular quiz night will be going ahead as usual - Saturday 27th February, 7pm for 7.30pm,

continued on page 22



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Editor / Commercial Advertising:

Ron Ower 07721 780 372
bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk

Upminster Organizer:

Cllr Linda van den Hende
(223761)

Residents' Association Website:

Cllr Clarence Barrett
(07863 116029)
www.ucra.co.uk

ASSOCIATION COUNCILLORS:

Upminster Ward:

Linda Hawthorn 225451
Ron Ower 07721 780372
Linda Van den Hende 223761

Cranham Ward:

Clarence Barrett 07863 116029
Gillian Ford 641317
June Alexander 227092

tables of 8, bring your own refreshments. Please book your table early, to avoid disappointment - if you can't make up a full table, we can pair you off on the night. Please phone 01708 225 451.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Arthur Rackley

It is with regret that we have to advise you that Arthur Rackley, The Pearly King of Upminster, passed away at the end of October. A full obituary will be in the January Bulletin.

Cllr RON OWER

Claire Poulton

Sadly we have to inform you that long term local resident Claire, the owner of Kinders in Station Road has passed away. The shop, specialising in school uniforms was very popular with queues going outside the door on the last week to a new year at school. Claire was a stalwart in local affairs. She will be missed. Our condolences to her family.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

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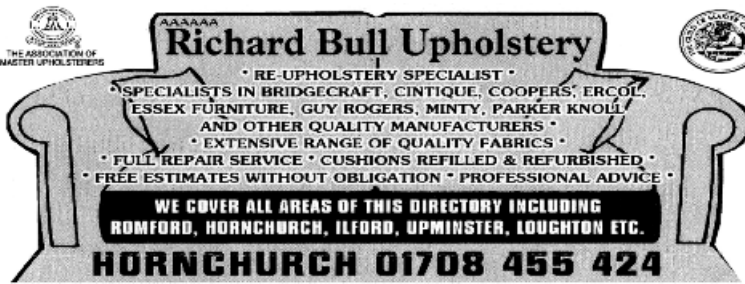
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- Music** at Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane. 10.30 am - 12.30 pm £2.
- 11 Friday - **RSPB Havering Local Group** will hold a **Christmas Social** in Hornchurch Library at 7.45 pm. Buffet and Quiz. For further information ring Janet Silver on 01708 452171.
- 12 Saturday - **RSPB Havering Local Group** are holding a **Christmas Ramble** at Rainham Marsh Reserve. Meet there at 10.00 am. For further information ring Janet Silver on 01708 452171.
- 12 Saturday - **Saturday Talks Club** 2.15 pm at Roope Hall, United Reformed Church, Upminster have Guest Speaker Adrian Wright on Scenery and Railways in New Zealand. Cost £4 including tea and biscuits. Contact Mrs Bland on 01689 858701 or Mrs Blake on 01708 227512.
- 14 Monday - **Essex Wildlife Trust Havering Group** will present a talk "Behind the Garden Wall" by Lois Amos. This is about the walled garden in Bedfords Park. To be held in Hornchurch Library at 7.45 pm. Requested donation £2. Light refreshments and a raffle. More information from Joy Emerson on 01708 440297.
- 17 Thursday - **Upminster Wine & Social Club**. We are a fun group with an interest in wine appreciation and enjoying many social events. We hold meetings every third Thursday of the month with a variety of speakers and a wine tasting. Meetings are held in the Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane, Cranham; start 8 pm. For more information contact Maureen Jasper on 01708 223956, or simply come along on the night. You will be most welcome.
- 18 Friday - **Havering Antique and Collectors Club** meet at the Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood, 7.30 pm for 8 pm start are holding their **Christmas Party** - with Peter King Singer / Comedian. (Members and Guest Only). For further details please call our Chairman Mrs Jan Halsey on 01708 373574.
- 18 Friday - **Kingsley Choral Group's Christmas Concert** held at Trinity Church Upminster at 7.30 pm. Tickets are still only £7.50 including seasonal refreshments. Proceeds from Ticket sales and Raffle will be divided between the church and a children's charity. The newly expanded choir will be presenting beautiful Christmas music, both

- traditional and new, So make this the start of your Christmas Celebrations.
- 19 Saturday - **Stewart Avenue Allotments** off Corbets Tey Road will be selling jams, chutneys, home-made cakes etc. Get your last little gifts for Xmas. 11.00 am - 2.00 pm.
- 20 Tuesday- Grace Community Church invites you to our **Christmas Carol Service** and Christmas Morning Service, both at 10am The Old Chapel, opposite Upminster Windmill, St Marys' Lane. Visit us at www.gracecommunityc.co.uk.

- Institute** are holding a Social Time with entertainment. Our meetings are held at Cranham Social Hall, 103 Front Lane, RM14 1XL at 7.45 pm. Visitors are welcome.
- 8 Friday - **Coffee & Conversation** morning re-opens at 10.30 - 12.30 pm at Cranham Social Hall, 103 Front Lane, RM14 1XL. Entrance £2, this includes refreshment.

JANUARY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

- 2 Saturday - **The Havering Branch of the East of London Family History Society** hold meetings at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster RM14 2SJ doors open at 1pm; meeting starts at 2pm. This month the talk is 'What's in a Will' with Matt Pridham. 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.
- 5 Tuesday - **Oglethorpe Women's**

ASSOCIATION DIARY

DECEMBER

- 2 Wednesday **Upminster Ward Meeting** at St Joseph's Social Centre at 8 pm
- 10 Thursday **Cranham Ward Meeting** at Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens at 7.15 pm
- All welcome.
- There are no Ward Meetings in January.**

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