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## UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

### Havering Grant to Reduce by 96%



Further to last month's update on the budget, the recent central grant settlement for Havering is far worse than anticipated. This is largely due to the government adopting a completely different formula when assessing grant. In summary, our grant goes from £31m this year down to £1.4m in 2019/20 – a 96% cut. Havering has seen much bigger reductions than its neighbours with no account taken of the increased pressures we face through an ageing population, children's services and environmental costs. We shall be lobbying the government hard to review this most unfair situation. Of course, this makes balancing the budget more

difficult than ever and will mean making very difficult choices. Among other changes the government have made are:

- A 2% levy on council tax to support Adult Social Care
- Public Health budgets reduced
- New Homes Bonus cut from £7m to £4.3m
- Full retention of business rates after 2020

I shall keep residents advised as we go through the whole budget process.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

### Best Decorated Window



Scouts agreed to visit both shopping centres and judge the competition. They all joined me in Cranham to present this years winner Coiffeur Victoria with the trophy. Well done Coiffeur Victoria, and a big thank you to this years judges.

A number of years ago, it was decided to make Cranham Christmas friendly with the introduction of the Best Decorated Shop Window Competition. Avon Road and Cranham Village take part in the competition, with the chance to win the prized Silver Cup, well almost Silver! Next Christmas this will be extended to include the inside of units, as some have little scope to decorate windows.

This year I thought it would be nice to have a younger perspective as to who should win the trophy and was delighted that 2nd Cranham Cubs and

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

### Variety Show

Please note the Mayor Councillor Brian Eagling's and Mayoress Bunny Eagling's Variety Show, to raise funds for their charities, takes place on Sunday 3rd April, 7pm at the Queens Theatre, Hornchurch. Tickets are now available at £15 each from Brian on 01708 373 027. This promises to be a fantastic evening.

### Uppminster Parking Zone

During December, the Council delivered a letter to roads south of Uppminster Station, requesting views and opinions on any parking problems, giving examples of possible restrictions eg part day parking ban etc. Obviously, some roads are more affected than others. Following the introduction of the Parking Zone in the 1970s, to deter predominantly commuter parking for Uppminster Station, the zone has been expanded over the years. The problem was only knocked onto other roads, so a blanket approach was needed. It is also important to point out that Havering has the second highest amount of vehicle owners in London and the numbers in Uppminster are very high and growing significantly! Amongst the questions, views were requested on Residents' Parking permits. Sadly, no indications of cost were given. In a number of roads there have been requests for permits. Hopefully, readers will have returned their questionnaires and they will be collated shortly. Any proposals from the Council are subject to formal consultation and your Uppminster Councillors Linda Hawthorn, Ron Ower and Linda Van den Hende, who have been holding meetings on this with Council Officers, will be looking at these in detail. We will let you know the results and keep you informed of any proposals.

### AGM

Kindly note the Association's AGM will be at St Joseph's Social Club Hall on Tuesday February 23rd, at 7.30pm. After the main AGM business, Councillor Clarence Barrett will give a short presentation

*continued on page 2*

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on the Council's Budget, Council Tax and the future of Local Government funding followed by questions and answers.

## School Crossing Patrol

There has not been a school crossing patrol in St. Mary's Lane outside Upminster School for some time, which I know has caused some anxiety for parents and carers. I have established that a recruitment exercise just before Christmas was unsuccessful but the council is committed to filling the post with the right candidate and will be advertising again very soon. I will be chasing this to ensure we do get our School crossing patrol back at this location as soon as possible.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

## Bus Stops

As readers are aware, the Council with financial assistance from Transport for London are in the process of making all our bus-stops disabled friendly and for parents with prams etc. by extending the areas where the bus stops so the bus can park straight with the pavement and become easier to enter once the platform

is lowered. St Mary's Lane has now been finished, and Ockendon Road is on-going. The next road will be Clay Tye Road - once done, hopefully, this will be an improvement for those not as mobile as others and all bus users.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

## Abigail's Column

### Young people's wishes

Younger peoples needs have been taken into consideration much more in recent years but there is still a long way to go. We certainly would like more things locally to do. Often there is nothing to do apart from the going to the park or cafés. Hangout places aimed at young people like Milkshake bars would be fantastic especially in winter. Shops for younger people selling clothes, stationary, accessories and small pocket money items could do well in this area. Getting to and from school can sometimes be difficult. Busses don't always stop for us we would like more reliable busses that stop for people regardless of their age. We are lucky to have a lot of local businesses. It would be nice to see more links between them and young people. Maybe sponsoring events, careers advice, work

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experience placements or helping with young enterprise /DofE schemes. Lastly, other areas have active youth forums

where young people represent their views formally and information about local issues in a child friendly format to get more young people involved in local issues.

*Over years we have been delighted to give space to a number of local youngsters to write their views and thoughts in The Bulletin.*

*Abigail, a student at Coopers Coborn school, joined us last year. If you have any thoughts on Abigail's article above, write to her care of The Bulletin email [bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk) or to me at 28 Derham Gardens, Upminster, RM14 3HA.*

Cllr RON OWER, editor

## Friends of Upminster Mini Golf Need Help

The next meeting of the Friends Group will be on 18th February

(7.15pm) at the Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens - all welcome. We are very keen to hear from anyone who would be interested in an events and/or publicity role for the group. For further information, please contact Clarence on 07863 116029.

## Santa's Sleigh Brings Joy

In times of austerity, gloom and doom, Havering East Rotary Club, with help from Upminster 41 Club, once again brought much joy to the streets of Upminster and Cranham with their Santa Sleigh. (See Havering East Rotary Facebook Page to see how special it was).

This was its 40th year and people's generosity continues to be amazing. A record amount, just over £6575, was collected for local good causes such as First Step, St Francis Hospice, Ravensbourne and Dycourt Schools'. Many, many thanks for all your help and support once again.

Paul Johnson, President,  
Havering East Rotary Club

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## Les Freeman

Sadly I have to inform those of you who are not aware that Les passed away at the end of November last year. I first met Les over 40 years on one of my regular visits to his home in Beech Avenue (we had our Executive meetings there) where he moved with Betty in 1961 from Bristol. They married in 1953. Betty was our Chairman for many years and also served on the Upminster Social Committee where Les would assist at the various dances they organised. Betty predeceased him around thirteen years ago. For the last three years Les has been living in Huskards in Hall Lane. Les was also an active supporter and for many years was a *Bulletin* deliverer and a regular attendee at our Ward Meetings where in that wonderful West Country accent he would always participate. A very active Freemason and apart from being a Grand Lodge Officer was a founder member of the Upminster Daylight Lodge. I will never forget the support I received from Betty and Les when I was first elected as one of your Councillors. Our thoughts go out to their daughter Moira and her family. Upminster has lost a kind gentleman.

Cllr RON OWER

## Thank You Knitters

Thank you to all the knitters who helped make over 1000 green squares for the Trinity Church Christmas tree. We will be sewing them into blankets for Christian Hope International in January. If anyone would like to help with the sewing please contact Pam Addis 01708 220460.

## Claire Poulten

Following Cllr. Linda Hawthorn's kind remarks about my sister, Claire, of Kindas the Schools Outfitters in Station Road, in the *Bulletin* I write on behalf of the family to thank all those who attended her funeral and who contributed to the magnificent sum of £1792. in her memory which has been paid to the British Heart Foundation.

John Poulten

## Support needed

2nd Upminster Scout Group are looking for a new team of volunteers to help open a second Cub Pack (for ages 8-10.5yrs)! They meet in St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, RM14 2BB and we are looking to open Cubs on a Monday evening.

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If you could spare one evening a week to help them, please get in touch to find out how you can get involved...Please contact Lucy Vizor on 07432 562 378 or email lucy.vizor@scouts.org.uk Full support and training is given. You can experience the fun, friendship and adventure of Scouting for yourself all on a flexible basis.

## Crime Protection

There have been a number of crimes committed locally from break-ins to theft of vehicles, the keys are stolen and the cars driven off of the drive; a concern for residents and the Police. Social media has played a part in getting messages out and warning others of crimes and risks. It is hoped that by the time you read this article, a public meeting will have been held with the Police, Neighbourhood Watch representative, and Streetwatch. The focus being what measures can be put into place to improve safety and awareness in the area. There are a number of simple things that can be done to protect your property. Police Sergeant, Ken McNish advises that you 'double lock your front door correctly and leave lighting on in the evenings if you are out'. If you witness anything suspicious call 101 who will pass the details through to the local police teams

who will get back to you when available (this is not an emergency service). However, if you are witnessing a crime happen always call 999. We can all be mindful of who or what is going on around us from suspicious door-to-door visitors, seeing unknown vehicles being driving around the area and individuals acting suspiciously. Please be mindful of our vulnerable residents, we do not want to scare them but check they are taking the necessary safety precautions. If you are interested in engaging in Streetwatch please contact me on the following email address:  
gillian.ford@havering.gov.uk  
Cllr GILLIAN FORD

## Your 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.

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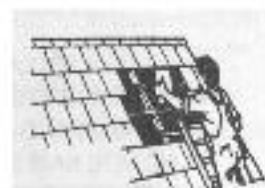
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## Shirley Gives

Shirley Ward (Shirley Tours) gave £1,100 donation each (Total £4,400) to the following organisations:

The James Oglethorpe Infants and Junior School, Cranham Hall Mead Senior School, All Saints Church, Cranham All Saints Scouts (1st Cranham).

Thank you to all who came on my trips in 2015 who helped fund raise the above amount. If you would like a list of my proposed trips for 2016 please send me a stamped addressed envelope to 15 Worcester Avenue, Cranham, Upminster Essex RM14 3LB, or e mail me to join mailing list [shirley@shirleytours.co.uk] shirley@shirleytours.co.uk or call on 01708 227884.

## Bus Routes

I have been trying for some time to get a bus route to serve the area Gaynes Park Road/Hacton Lane area. Possibly a small Hoppla type Bus. This would have been subject to Public Consultation. Unfortunately, Transport for London who manage and decide on bus routes have advised that no plans are being considered at present for any extra services, and

they are concentrating on having extra buses on their existing services. I am still trying to get a direct service from Cranham/Upminster to the Queens Hospital, Romford, also an increased service for St Francis Hospice, Havering Atte Bower. I will keep you up to speed on these.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

## Upminster Windmill

Real progress is being made on the restoration of Upminster Windmill. A contract has been placed to build the new Education and Training Centre. Work will start on 18 January and take around six months. A temporary access track has been installed for the construction traffic.

Tendering for the restoration work on the windmill is underway and contract is expected to be agreed shortly. Work would then begin in the spring, probably with the removal of the cap and sails for refurbishment. The Mill will be closed for two years but will then be in full working order. The Friends of Upminster Windmill will need additional

volunteers to act as visitor assistants in the new building and to help with garden duties. If you are interested please contact Gemma Smith at gsmith@upminsterwindmill.co.uk Although the volunteering work will start later in the year, Gemma will be organising informal social events (at Upminster Old Chapel, St.Mary's Lane) to keep volunteers informed of developments.

Denis Coombs

## Stubbers Adventure Centre

Have you or your children attended Stubbers Adventure Centre in the past? Stubbers celebrates it's 20th anniversary this year and want to hear about your memories or stories from time that you've spent at Stubbers. Please email info@stubbers.co.uk. Stubbers Adventure Centre in Ockendon Road, Upminster RM14 2TY have a calendar of events taking place throughout the year to celebrate their anniversary. Find out more at their brand new website [www.Stubbers.co.uk](http://www.Stubbers.co.uk). As well as offering competitive

holiday camps for 7-16 years olds, birthday parties and corporate activities, Stubbers is open to the public all year round - come and take a stroll in 130 acres of open space, enjoy waterfront views or relax in our a on-site coffee shop Source with a hot drink.

## Havering Museum

### Havering Museum Groups or Business Room Hire

If you wish to hold a group or business event at Havering Museum then we have several rooms available at reasonable charges. For Corporate Events businesses have the opportunity to hire the whole of the Museum. Enquiries via Pamela Wilkes, bookings@haveringmuseum.org.uk or by telephoning 01708 749 119.

### Beer and Food Tasting at Golden Lion - 8 February

On Monday 8th February at 7 pm Havering Museum will be holding its 3rd annual beer tasting event. In partnership with the Golden Lion and the Brentwood Brewing Company we are having a beer and food tasting event this year.

continued on page 7

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The event is upstairs at the Golden Lion and starts at 7pm. Tickets are £15. Bookings via [hmmarketing@btconnect.com](mailto:hmmarketing@btconnect.com) or ring the Museum to reserve tickets.

**Antiques and Collectibles Event, Saturday, 27 February at 1pm**  
Come along to our fun packed event where you will learn about antiques and collectibles and take part in a mock auction. Refreshments included. Tickets

are £6 per person and can be reserved by email - [hmmarketing@btconnect.com](mailto:hmmarketing@btconnect.com) or by telephone the Museum on 01708 766 571.

**Family Events for Half Term for children aged between 4-10. Wednesday, 17 and Friday 19 February, 11 am - Forensics**

Children have fun by becoming detectives, solving crimes by looking at evidence and finger printing. **£3 per child, accompanying adult free**

**Wednesday, 17 February, 1pm - Ferocious Beasts Through The Ages**

Calling all children, come along to discuss your favourite predators and learn about some new ones. Activities include constructing your own fearsome 3D creations. - **£3 per child, accompanying adult free**

Tickets for family events must be

reserved in advance by emailing [hmmarketing@btconnect.com](mailto:hmmarketing@btconnect.com) or by telephoning 01708 766571

**Saturday, 27 February, 1pm - Family Tree - Military Records**  
Interactive talk on the availability and interpretation of military records and an opportunity to discuss your personal family history tree. Tickets £5 and must be booked in advance.

**Saturday, 12 March, 1.30pm**  
The London Cinema Museum **£5.00**

Martin Humphries from the Cinema Museum will be sharing the fascinating history of the Cinema Museum and will be bringing along a range of cinema memorabilia to Havering Museum. To reserve a ticket either email [hmmarketing@btconnect.com](mailto:hmmarketing@btconnect.com) or telephone 01708 766571.

## Lunchtime Recitals

Thursday Lunchtime Recitals at St Laurence Church, Upminster 1.05pm- 1.50pm.

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- Piano)
- Feb 11th - Richard Brasier, organ (St Laurence)
- Feb 18th - Centre for Young Musicians Showcase Concert
- Feb 25th - Ourania Gassiou, organ (Megaron Concert Hall, Athens)

## Race Night

Please note date for your diary on Saturday 19th March.

Havering East Rotary Club are holding a Race Night at the Albany School. For further details please telephone 01708 780 158.

## Calling all bakers...

Happy New Year. Do you love to bake? Please join us. Our bake club is next meeting on Monday 8th February at The Old Chapel, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, from 18.30 to 20.30. We are a group of keen but amateur bakers who meet every 6/8 weeks to swap support, stories and baked goods. We all bake something to bring along to share. February's theme is Valentine (following the theme is not compulsory). £5 fee to

cover hall, tea, coffee etc. For more information contact [Sharon@vanillabakeclub.com](mailto:Sharon@vanillabakeclub.com) or check out our website [www.vanillabakeclub.com](http://www.vanillabakeclub.com) or find us on Facebook or Twitter.

## Coach Outings for 2016

Listed below are the Association coach outings for the 2016 season.

16th April - Bury St Edmunds  
14th May - Marlow  
18th June - Saffron Walden  
23rd July - Worthing  
13th August - Eastbourne  
17th September - Ely  
15th October - Canterbury  
12th November - Kingston  
Please check the "Association Diary" on the back page of your *Bulletin* for booking details, whom to contact and cost. Kindly note trips cannot be booked until booking details have been published. With *The Bulletin* now being distributed to other parts of Havering, it is becoming difficult to accommodate all the requests for the UCRA coach outings with our diminishing team of volunteers. Anyone interested in

*continued on page 9*

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joining our team please ring Mrs. Bezant as we do need "new" blood to enable to continue these well patronised trips.

Also if there is a group/individual interested in running coach trips in their area, then members of the Upminster & Cranham Residents' Association Coach Outing Committee are willing to give advice and help to set up a similar committee. As a result more Havering residents could enjoy a day out at an affordable price and a nominated charity would also benefit. Our Chair Mrs. Thelma Bezant can be contacted on 01708 226 815. And finally in view of a recent situation, the Coach Committee wish to make it clear that a waiting time of 15 minutes maximum will be allowed before the coach will depart. It is therefore your responsibility to be at the designated pick-up point at the stated time. Please ensure that you have the organiser's mobile telephone number for emergency use.

## Parking Problems

We often get complaints of drives being blocked, etc.

If you experience a problem and wish to report a vehicle, please note following Council numbers during office hours: 01708 432 787. Out of office hours: 07946 738 495.

## Alert for Tortoise Owners

Owing to the unseasonably mild winter weather many tortoises were late in going into hibernation and consequently may have used up some of the reserves they laid down over the summer months. This raises concerns over their ability to survive the hibernation period and Lawton and Stoakes are therefore advising all tortoise owners to check for signs of activity in their pets. If you notice signs of urination, faeces or weight loss of more than a few grams it may be wise to artificially wake your tortoise and keep them warm until the spring. If you have concerns over your tortoise's health please telephone 01708 384444 for advice or for a copy of our "Over Wintering tortoise" leaflet.

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Upcoming events at the Old Chapel Creative Craft Sessions

Weds 3 February, 3.00pm -

5.30pm - Heartfelt Craft Session with a Valentines theme.

Weds 2 March, 3.00pm - 5.30pm

- Spring is on the way!

£3 per child, suitable for ages 4+, no need to book.

Tues 16 February, 10am - 2pm - Pottery Painting Café

Come to the Old Chapel to have a cuppa and get creative! Entrance is free and you pay per item you paint. we operate on a first come, first served basis.

For any more information please call Gemma Smith on 01708 222660 or email [gsmith@mary.havering.sch.uk](mailto:gsmith@mary.havering.sch.uk)

## Discovering Thames Chase

Do you recognise this picture? If you do, maybe you can help us compile a history of the Community Forest - why and how it has developed in this part of East London and south west Essex during the last 25yrs. Even if you don't recognise it, join us for



a coffee morning on the second Friday each month and share your memories and pictures and learn the story of the Forest. We will start with the history of Broadfields Farm, the home of the Forest Centre on 12th February at 10.30am.

Would you like to know more about woodland management or maybe learn some of the traditional skills involved? Our experienced conservation volunteer teams welcome you to join them at Broadfields whilst they are coppicing the hazel plantation and planting new areas of woodland for the Forestry Commission during February and March. Dates and further information are available on the website [www.thameschase.org.uk](http://www.thameschase.org.uk) or from the Forest Centre, Pike Lane.

Also at the Forest Centre -

*continued on page 11*

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**Sunday 14th February 10.30am-3pm.** Wildlife Photography Exhibition including a talk from Gordon Vaughan at 10.30am and advice on achieving the best images. Admission free.

**Monday 15th-Friday 16th February.** Half term holiday programme 'Don't throw it - reuse it!' A different activity each day - information from the Visitor Centre or online.

**Friday 19th February 2.30-4.30pm.** Valentines Cream Tea with live music. Cost £8 per person (Booking essential)

**Sunday 21st February 10am-3pm.** Sunday market including woodcraft demonstrations.

## Bereavement Support

### Heath and Havering HOPE Bereavement Support Course

Are you or someone you know 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. We wonder if we are normal, or going mad! The world seems to expect us to "get over" our loss within a few weeks of the funeral. Yet as time passes 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. Whoever you have lost, there is a place for you.

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. The next group will be held in Upminster on Friday morning, starting on the 12th February.

To book a place or to find out

more information please contact Linda Legrand by phone -07500 724169 email [heathandhaveringhope@gmail.com](mailto:heathandhaveringhope@gmail.com)

## Escape Fun Casino Night

**Saturday 6th February 2016**

Back by popular demand, the Escape Group is holding what will be the 5th Fun Casino Night on Saturday 6th February 2016. The venue is North Street Halls and the start time is 7.30pm. Tickets are £9.00 per person.

It's an opportunity for the ladies to wear a glamorous evening gown and for the men to dress in lounge suit or black tie and dinner jacket! Upon arrival, guests are greeted with a glass of sparkling wine and given the chips and paper credits to use when playing on the various Casino tables. The object (like Monopoly) is to accumulate as much winnings as possible before the tables close around 10pm. The winner receives a bottle of Champagne!

Hot and cold canapes and finger food is served during the evening and there is a bar and raffle.

Dancing to DJ Robbie V follows closure of the Casino tables, to round the evening off. In the past, we have found that about 90 guests is an optimum number and given the continuing popularity of the evening, we recommend booking or purchasing tickets as early as possible. Tickets can be obtained from: Alan Ruyten (Tel: 01708 448050) or Rod Glover (Tel: 07445 714151).

Alan Ruyten

## Hornchurch Football Club

Our local team have the following "Home" fixtures this month: Saturday 6th Cheshunt, 20th Wroxham and on the 5th March Sudbury and on the 12th March Aveley.

Kick Off at 3pm. Go along to the Bridge Stadium and support your local team. Further details on the clubs web site.

## Shirley's Tours

Further to the article regarding Shirley's Donations please see the following trips she has organised:

*continued on page 13*

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**May 28th, Saturday; Troop  
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## James Oglethorpe Primary School

The James Oglethorpe Primary  
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fundraising for the Mayor's  
Charities and the children were



delighted to present the Mayor with  
a cheque for £264.40 in a special  
assembly this morning.  
Head Teacher, Deborah Rowles,  
commented that "There is a strong

tradition of charitable fundraising,  
here at The James Oglethorpe  
Primary School and our children  
dug deep to support the Mayor's  
two special charities. We were all  
delighted that the Mayor was able  
to come in and thank the children  
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## C2C Rail

Further to my previous articles in  
the *Bulletin*, please see latest

reply from C2C regarding the  
stopping of some of the trains  
along the Southend direction  
platform:

"The trains stopping halfway  
down the platform should be  
resolved by Easter. We have a  
project under way which is  
installing cameras instead of  
mirrors at the key vantage points.  
Originally, we had hoped to get  
this work finished this year, but it  
has slipped slightly due to the  
other projects we have been  
managing at the same time."

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

*Kindly note Cllr Clarence Barrett  
has written to C2C regarding  
recent changes to their timetable  
following complaints. We will keep  
you informed.*

## Windmill Quiz Night

Kindly note this popular quiz night  
is being held on Saturday 27th  
February at 7 pm for 7.30pm at the  
the St.Laurence Church Main Hall.  
Tables of 8. Please bring your own  
refreshments.

*continued on page 15*

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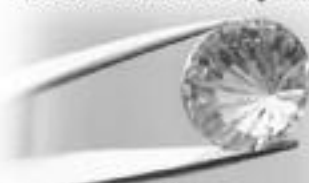
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CLlr LINDA HAWTHORN

## Jump the Q

The Queens Theatre have their "Jump the Q" tickets deals again this year. See three great shows from just £12.50 each on shows Tuesday to Thursday, at previews or Saturday matinees. Or you can upgrade for £49.50 ie £16.50 each to include Friday and Saturday evenings. From the 4th to the 26th March they have Shakespeare's riotous comedy "Much Ado About Nothing". From the 15th to the 7th May The Silver Gym and from the 27th May to the 18th June The Romford Rose. Make a note in your diaries now! Three wonderful productions. Please telephone the Queens Box office on 01708 443 333 for tickets and further details or visit the Queens web site [queens-theatre.co.uk](http://queens-theatre.co.uk). Jump the Q tickets make a fantastic gift.

## Upminster Wesley Guild

The Guild has two meetings in February as follows:

**Thursday 11 February** - "The work of All We Can", an illustrated talk by Sue Drury (All We Can is the new name of the Methodist Church's Relief and Development Fund)

**Thursday 25 February** - "Behind Closed Doors", a talk by retired Prison Officer, Pauline Martindale.

Meetings held at Methodist Church, Hall Lane from 2pm for further details please contact Ian Leadley on 01708 229 550.

## Tree Festival

The Christmas tree festival held at the Upminster Methodist Church in the first week of December was a great success. The church, decorated with 31 beautifully decorated trees attracted many visitors each day.

From the Festival donations, we have given £1000 to each of our chosen charities - St Francis Hospice, Crisis and First Step.

Engayne Primary School was the winner of the best-decorated tree, voted for by visitors to the festival,

and the runners up were the 3rd Upminster Beaver Colony. More information and photos about the festival can be found on the church website:  
[www.upminstermethodistchurch.org](http://www.upminstermethodistchurch.org)  
We thank the Residents Association for their support and for publicising the event, which we plan to repeat in December 2016.

## Badminton Players

Emerson Park Badminton club requires players 16 plus for social badminton on Thursday nights at Emerson Park School, Wych Elm Road, off Wingletye Lane-term time only 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm. No membership, just turn up and play

£4. For further information call Kevin on 01708 250 803.

## Valentine's Day

This year Valentine's Day is on Sunday the 14th; why not spice up your evening at The Alishan Indian Restaurant, Station Road, Upminster booking details on page 18.

The staff are very happy to answer any questions.

## Saturday Talks Club

The Golden Age of Venice. The speaker is Anne Stott.  
Saturday February 13th, 2.15pm (doors open 1.45pm).

*continued on page 17*

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## Wednesday Music Evenings

**Wednesday 3rd February - LOOKING BACK AT THE THIRTIES** presented by Jim Uffindell.

Tonight we welcome back Jim Uffindell for a programme featuring an extensive and engaging selection of music from the 1930s, a decade that gave us the still fresh Astaire & Rogers movies together with the musical film extravaganzas of the great Busby Berkeley; the golden age of the dance-band; and a plethora of great singers including the amazingly popular Peter Dawson who Jim will feature. Jim's choice of music will again range across a wide variety of musical genres.

**Wednesday 17th February - THE VERY BEST OF BRITISH LIGHT MUSIC** presented by Alan Tomlin. Ernest Tomlinson is one of our great light music

composers and a man who did so much to promote the genre during his lifetime, and his death last year has prompted Alan to explore the contents of the steady stream of light music CDs that has been released over the past ten years. These, in the main, short musical sketches can be brilliant, witty, reflective or exciting - but above all they are consistently tuneful. Many, like Charles William's Devil's Gallop (Dick Barton - Special Agent), have attained fame as the introductory music to radio and television programmes and Alan guarantees you an entertaining and occasionally nostalgic evening.

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For more details call Stephen Raindle 01708 470670 or email [sraindle@aol.com](mailto:sraindle@aol.com)

## Clubbercise

Sally Guise has this class on Wednesdays at 7.30pm till 8.30pm At Coopers Coborn School, St. Mary's Lane, held in the Main Theatre at the school.

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## Dog Poo

We have had a number of calls asking for dog owners to dispose of their dog poo bags responsibly. The vast majority do but leaving them in the street can attract vermin, etc. Many thanks.

## Guides' Quiz

Cranham Park Friends of Guiding are holding a Quiz Evening on Saturday 5th March, 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm start.

At The Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens. Tickets £7.50, includes a Ploughmans Supper. Tables of not more than 10. Bring your own drinks and glasses. Contact Barbara Levis on 01708 250941 or Doris Harding on 01708 226725.

## Havering Concert Orchestra

The Havering Concert Orchestra invites you to their Spring Concert on Saturday 19 March, 7.30pm, Frances Bardsley Academy. The repertoire

*continued on page 19*

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  - Mendelssohn - Violin Concerto - Madeleine Mitchell
  - Tchaikovsky - Symphony No 5
- The HCO is delighted to welcome Madeleine Mitchell as soloist for the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto. Madeleine has a distinguished career as violin soloist, chamber musician, dedicated teacher and artistic director. She has performed in some 50 countries and made many recordings and broadcasts, whilst making a regular commitment to her Royal College of Music teaching. We look forward to seeing you on the 19th March to enjoy this music programme.

## FIG Play Group Quiz

Please note on the 6th February Charity Quiz Night in aid of FIG Play Group, to be held at Cranham Community Centre, 7.30pm start. Tickets £8 each including fish / chicken / veggie burger and chips. Contact Janet on 01708 509 434 for tickets / more information.

PC Mark Edwards

## Dangerous Parking

Police have received yet more complaints about motorists stopping and parking on the School Zig Zag lines outside Upminster Junior/Infants School both on the Corbets Tey Rd entrance and the St Mary's Lane entrance. Of the several motorists that have spoken to over the past few weeks all have been parents of children who actually attend the school. Officers wish to thank those parents and other motorists who follow the rules in assisting them in making the area outside school safe. Just a reminder, the lines are painted there to prevent children being knocked over when crossing the road in the vicinity of the school and to provide a clear vision for children and parents alike. Parking on the lines is not allowed. Stopping on the lines to drop children off is not allowed. Further incidents of inconsiderate dangerous parking outside school will be dealt with in the necessary manner by police and the local authority. The very last thing we want to deal with is a collision outside our school involving a child.

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## LOCAL FUTURE EVENTS FEBRUARY

- 6 Saturday - **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 'Feeding the Family in the First World War' with Mike Brown. The Internet & Technology Group meets at the same venue 11am - 1pm where a Q&A session is followed by Useful Websites with Eric Probert. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both.
- 6 Saturday - **Hornchurch and Upminster Sugarcraft** have a demonstration on "Silhouette's with Quilling Tree" by Elaine Haynes held at Hornchurch Library, North Street, Hornchurch. Entrance fee Pay at Door £6 includes Tea and Cake. 1.30pm - 3.30 pm.
- 7 Sunday - **Traditional Chinese Lion Dance Parade.** To celebrate Chinese New Year in Upminster Town Centre. Commencing at Bell Corner at 12 noon.
- 8 Monday - **Quiz at Crumpled Horn Pub,** Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, from 19.30 for a 20.00 prompt start. Tables to a max of 8 persons at a cost of £6 each and to include a superior ploughmans supper. In aid of Little Havens Hospice. From Bob Blunden on 01708 - 226154 for any queries and bookings.
- 9 Tuesday - **NAEFAS (Havering)** welcome Mr Ian Swankie with a talk entitled "Thomas Heatherwick: The Modern Leonardo". Lecture 10.45 am. Coffee from 10.00 am. Visitors welcome at £8.

The meetings are held at The New Windmill Hall, St. Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QH. Further information on the Society, future lectures and visits can be found at [www.haveringdfas.org.uk](http://www.haveringdfas.org.uk).

- 18 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.
- 19 Friday - **Havering Antique and Collectors Club** meet at the Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood have Guest Speaker David Tweddle on "Venice Brush Strokes and some Venetian Artists". 7.30 pm for 8 pm start. For further details please call our Chairman Mrs Chris Lovett 01708 221851.
- 24 Wednesday - **Upminster Townswomen's Guild** have Guest Speaker Brian Billings talking on "Essex Smugglers". Come along and join us at 1.45 pm in St Laurence Church, Derham Hall, Upminster. For more details phone Shirley on 01708 224219 or Bertha on 01708 222410.
- 26 Friday - **Cranham Social Hall** hold a **Coffee & Conversation** morning with a Welcome return to Singer William Byrne. Visitors welcome. Tickets £3.50 Pay at the Door, including refreshments served from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm at Cranham

*continued on page 24*

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## 3rd Upminster Livingstone Cubs

The Livingstone Cub Pack annual Carol Singing event was held again at Upminster Station on the 8th December.

This was the eighth year we have raised money for charities and once again local people have been most generous.

Nearly 30 Cubs and 6 leaders sang for just over an hour and we managed to raise £690 for our chosen charities - Add+ Up based in Hornchurch and the Little Haven Hospice at Benfleet.

We would like to thank everyone who gave a donation.

Andrew Lillington  
Akela, Cub Scout Leader  
Livingstone Cubs 3rd Upminster Scout Group.

## Going the extra mile!

Children at the James Oglethorpe Primary School have pledged to walk or run a daily mile every school day. After assembly, the school is giving an additional 15 minutes PE time per day for all junior children to get involved and walk or run a mile to boost their levels of fitness and to gain

all the health benefits associated with increased physical activity as well as higher concentration levels.

'Governors, Parents and Staff are all fully behind this initiative and the feedback from the children is that they are loving it', explained Mrs Paula Sewell, Deputy Headteacher of the school in Ashvale Gardens, Cranham. 'As a school community, we are working together to get children more active and to enjoy exercising together, which is also known to boost self-esteem in children. We are also encouraging our families to join in through park and stride, where they park away from the school site and stride to school for the last bit of their journey.'

## Upminster Library Events

Thursday 4th February  
**Techy Teas**, 10.30-12.30, FREE  
Learn how to use the full potential of your laptop, mobile phone or tablet.  
Just bring along your device and an active Havering Library card and one of our volunteers will show you how.  
Friday 12th February  
**Holistic Massage**, 12.00- 4.30  
A relaxing back, neck and shoulder massage using essential

oils. £10 for 15 minutes  
Advance booking is essential  
Saturday 13th & 27th February  
**Reflexology**, 9.00 - 3.00  
For a full list of treatments please contact the library  
Price depends on treatment.  
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Tuesday 16th February  
**Adult Craft Workshop - Cards for Men**, 1.30-3.00  
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Wednesday 17th February  
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## Fleur Bell Corner

Valentine's and Mothers' Day gifts at Fleur - January is the month of trade shows and Kim has been busy finding great new gift and home ideas for you. We

have some exciting new furniture pieces arriving and the new collection Charlie Bears, as well as great gifts for Valentines Day and Mothers Day on March 6th. Fleur is at Bell Corner, Upminster, please notes Fleur's web site is [www.fleurgifts.com](http://www.fleurgifts.com).

## Donald Rogerson

My husband, Donald, died at home on 15th December. Present were two wonderful Hospice nurses.

They laid him out and telephoned all the necessary parties needed on my behalf. I cannot thank them and also the brilliant community nurses, Karen, Lindy, Jennifer and their team enough for their care, knowledge and kindness..He was ill for some time but the support of these lovely people was stupendous. I would like the *Bulletin* readers, if they are thinking of charitable donations, to give them to St. Francis Hospice.

It is local and the money really does go to them. We also have lovely neighbours so we have been very lucky.

Don was cremated on the 18th December with his children and grandchildren around him.  
Pam Rogerson, wife of 58 years to Donald.



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## Happy Circus at Engayne

Engayne Primary School, Severn Drive, Cranham are proud to present Happy Circus - a professional (non-animal) circus, taking place on school ground on the evening of 13th April 2016. Doors Open at 5pm, with the show starting at 6pm.

With state of the art sound and lighting technology, the Circus promises to be a fun evening of activities and entertainment for the whole family. The show stars The Randelle Clowns and features Acrobats, Aerialists, speciality acts Rolla- Rolla and Sword Balancing plus loads of Magic, Fun and much, much more!

Tickets are £8 per child and £10 per adult and will raise money for the school. Tickets are selling fast so book yours today at [www.engayne.co.uk](http://www.engayne.co.uk) to find out how to book. Please note small on-line booking fee applies. Once you've booked your tickets, please email your reference number to [neil@aladltd.co.uk](mailto:neil@aladltd.co.uk) for further information.

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Social Hall, 103 Front Lane, RM14 1XL.  
 29 Monday - **Breathe Easy - Havering** is a support group for people suffering from breathing difficulties, COPD, Asthma. etc. We meet on the last Monday of the month at St. Andrews Church Hall, Hornchurch at 1.30 - 3.00 pm. Light refreshments are served and we have guest speakers talking on a wide range of subjects such as - coping with COPD, gentle exercising, home safety, etc. New members, family and carers are always welcome; a voluntary donation of £2 is appreciated. Please contact Joyce 01708 226696 or Elaine 01708 509127 for more details.

### MARCH

- 1 Tuesday - **Oglethorpe Women's Institute** are holding a "Let's cook foreign food again!". Our meetings are held at Cranham Social Hall, 103 Front Lane, RM14 1XL at 7.45 pm. Visitors are welcome.
- 2 Wednesday - **Harold Wood Evening W.I.** have Guest Speaker Steve Beachey speaking about **Bees, their history and what they do**. Meetings held at the War

Memorial Hall in Gubbins Lane, 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm.  
 Visitors are welcome entrance is £2.50, which includes refreshments. For more details please ring Marion on 01708 349038.

- 5 Saturday - **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. The Internet & Technology Group meets at the same venue 11am - 1pm where a Q&A session is followed by workshop. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both.
- 5 Saturday - **Hornchurch and Upminster Sugarcraft** have a demonstration on "Pressure Pipes Animals" by Tessa Whitehouse held at Hornchurch Library, North Street, Hornchurch. Entrance fee Pay at Door £6 includes Tea and Cake. 1.30pm - 3.30 pm.
- 8 Tuesday - **NADFAS Havering** Following the Annual General Meeting we welcome Mr Martin Heard with a talk entitled "Tulipmania: Bloom and Bust". AGM

- 10.15 am, Lecture 10.45 am. Coffee from 10.00 am. Visitors welcome at £8. The meetings are held at The New Windmill Hall, St. Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QH. Further information on the Society, future lectures and visits can be found at [www.haveringdfas.org.uk](http://www.haveringdfas.org.uk)
- 8 Tuesday - **Upminster Horticultural Society** have Guest Speaker Caroline Holmes on **Garden History and Follies**. Caroline is a garden historian, international lecturer, broadcaster and author. Her presentation is a look at garden history from the 17th to 20th centuries. 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](http://www.upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk) or [info@upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk](mailto:info@upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk).
- 9 Wednesday - **Cranham Social Hall**, 103 Front Lane are holding a **Tea Dance**. Tickets £3.50 Pay at the Door. 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

## ASSOCIATION DIARY

### FEBRUARY

3 Wednesday **Upminster Ward Meeting** at St Joseph's Social Centre at 8 pm  
 11 Thursday **Cranham Ward Meeting** at Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens at 7.15 pm  
 23 Tuesday- AGM at St Joseph's Social Club Hall at 7.30 pm.

### MARCH

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

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