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UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Upminster Library



We have pointed out a number of times the Council has to make huge savings over the coming years. Part of the original plan was to scale down opening hours of a number of libraries, including Upminster, to 25 hours per week.

As Upminster is easily the third busiest library in Havering, with the highest proportion of residents belonging to a library, we believed the library should be open six days a week, as it is now.

During the consultation period, many people sent in their concerns about the proposed reduction in hours.

A public meeting was held just before Christmas, and

instead of the 20 - 30 people who attended the other library consultation meetings, we had over 120 people in attendance - all expressing their views, firmly but politely.

We have listened to your concerns and, along with our colleagues, have revised the proposals so that Upminster will remain open for the same 50 hours as before. I am also pleased to say that the revised plans allow for the Local Studies Library in Romford to retain a permanent member of staff and the summer reading group challenge will continue.

As part of the joint Administration, we are pleased that we were able to adjust the hours at Upminster Library and bring in the other changes to reflect the views and concerns of our residents.

It is very sad to see in many areas in the country libraries bring completely closed, thankfully this has been avoided here in Havering!

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Upminster Ward Meeting

Speaker: Bob Wenman, Head of the Council's StreetCare, will be attending the March 4th meeting to give us an update on his range of services. Bob is always a very popular speaker, given his services covering refuse, pavements, roads, parking etc. Come along so you can ask him direct questions about matters of concern. St. Joseph's Hall, St Mary's Lane at 8 pm.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Budget update

Following months of consultation and listening to the concerns of our residents, we have reviewed the initial budget plans and, by working as a Joint Administration, have amended the budget proposals as follows:

- Upminster Library will remain open 6 days a week
- The local studies and archive service will continue
- The summer reading challenge will continue
- No charges to use library computers
- The Housebound library service will continue with a local organisation
- Youth Service to be developed as an employee led mutual. To explore partnership working with the YMCA
- Parking in parks to be scaled back to 20p for three hours, 50p up to five hours and free at weekends & Bank Holidays
- Proposed reduction to Queen's Theatre grant phased over three years instead of two

Finding £60m of savings is extremely difficult, but by listening, re-evaluating and reconsidering options in light of the comments and concerns made by residents, demonstrates that working in a sensible partnership can bring about some positive change while dealing with very tough financial challenges.

A full report on the budget and Council Tax will follow in next month's edition of *The Bulletin*.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

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Evening of Pottery Painting

Thursday 12th March 7 pm to 9.30pm at The Old Chapel Upminster, St. Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QR. Why should the children have all the fun? Come and enjoy an evening of Pottery Painting at the Old Chapel. £5 to reserve a place (booking advised) which includes refreshments. Fee must be paid when booking. Email: gsmith@mary.havering.sch.uk Contact: Gemma Smith gs@mary.havering.sch.uk Tel: 01708 222 660.

Upminster Police Issues

During December and January there have been a total of 18 residential burglaries. They have been a mixture of front and rear entry through doors and some windows. Small items such as cash, jewellery and laptops are the most common items taken.

In addition there have been 6 attempted Burglaries from houses. 7 thefts from vehicles where items have been left on display have occurred together with 5 thefts of vehicles.

The message is to ensure doors are securely locked, even if you are going out for a few minutes, that's all it takes for a criminal to get in. Intruder alarms and security lights are a good investment. If you see anything suspicious or feel its an emergency always call 999.

If it's not an emergency call 101 and report anything you are not happy with.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

PC Mark Edwards (Taff)

Mark is moving on from being Upminster Safer Neighbourhood Teams dedicated Police Constable to a new role as Schools Officer for Upminster Secondary Schools this month. Although we will be losing him

from the team, he will still be around Upminster in his new role so we will probably bump into him from time to time. As he will be dealing with issues arising from our schools he will still have a link to our SNT team. Mark is being replaced by PC Sarah Morris, who has previously served on the Upminster SNT so no stranger to us. PCSO Julie Wade remains on the Upminster SNT. A reminder that the Police Office in Corbets Tey Road is open Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 8pm and 2 to 3pm on a Saturday when you can speak directly to a police officer.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

School Expansion

Both Engayne and James Oglethorpe Primary Schools are being considered for expansion and the original timetable has changed.

The government has implemented a process that schools now have to go before planning before decisions on expansion go out to statutory consultation. James

Oglethorpe plans are currently being drawn up. No statutory consultation process will take place until both planning processes have been undertaken.

Engayne's planning application went out to neighbour consultation on 28.1.15: Application No P0072.15, for various Single Storey Extensions to Early Years block, providing 2 Additional Classrooms, increase in Hall area, and Extension to Kitchen, Single storey extension to the 2 Storey block providing new Classroom and entrance lobby, together with extension to existing playground and staff car-park. Comments were due by 18.2.15, which unfortunately fell between Bulletin publication dates. A decision is due on the planning application by 17.3.15. I have called in this application so it will have to be heard by the Planning committee who will accept comments up to the date of the meeting. Please note if you submitted comments to Engaynes' pre-consultation process, you will have to provide a new submission

continued on page 3

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on planning grounds. When any school goes out to statutory consultation you will be required to submit again; even if you have submitted planning comments or pre-consultation comments.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Bulletin Co-ordinator

The success of the *Bulletin* depends on volunteers who kindly give up some of their time to deliver the newsletter each month. We are now seeking someone to undertake the co-ordinating role in Cranham.

This involves an oversight of the delivery schedules and co-ordinating the delivery of *Bulletins* with Area Controllers across the Cranham area. If you can help, or would like a non-committal chat, please call 07863 116029 or 01708 641317.

Flowerbeds

Hopefully you will have noticed some improvements to

flowerbeds in the Cranham area that have been neglected for a number of years.

The bed at the junction of Kings Gardens and Front Lane was the last to be enhanced. The bed at the end of Brookmans Close is the latest bed to be considered, with replacement of the old roses new roses "Rhapsody in Blue" under-planted with Lavender.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Festive Cheer

Festive Cheer was provided at the Cranham Social Centre at the Friday Morning group. Engayne Primary school entertained residents with carols, festive songs and humorous word changes to Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer. Father Christmas paid a visit and gave each pupil a gift.

This was just one of four community performances the school provided at Christmas. They had performed at Lakeside Shopping Centre with the final concert being at Engayne School.

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We would like to thank the Staff and pupils for their uplifting singing and for supporting community spirit.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Front Lane Parking

We have had numerous complaints from residents about the increased incidence of inconsiderate parking on the bend of Front Lane (opposite the Cranham Social Hall) and that it represents a hazard for motorists and pedestrians alike. We have discussed with the head of StreetCare and the existing double yellow lines will be extended down this stretch so that it leaves the bend clear of parked vehicles and clear of obstruction.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Upminster Playing Fields Friends Group

I am delighted to say the Upminster Playing Fields Friends

Group has now been established. Julia Pridham was elected as Chair and John Purvis elected as the Treasurer; the Group is looking for a Secretary. We are also looking into the history and memories of the park to include on a website being developed. If you have any photographs, memories, know the history of the playing fields or would like to join the group please contact me: Gillian.ford@haverling.gov.uk, Facebook: Councillor Gillian Ford, Tel: 01708 641317.

Parklands Bridge

I am delighted to tell readers that at very long last the 1770's bridge at Parklands at the end of Corbets Tey Road is currently being restored - to see the bridge finally returned to it's former glory is the icing on the cake in this wonderful area. Funded by grants from Veolia and from the Council, the work will take about 4 months to complete, so should be finished by the summer. I must thank the chairman of the Friends of Parklands, Andrew Griffiths for his tenacity on this project - once the bridge is repaired, the path

continued on page 4

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Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Should anyone wish to support this excellent cause through sponsorship, Clarence's fundraising page can be found at www.justgiving.com/Clarence-Barrett4/ or call 07863 116029.

First Step provide an essential service to the community by providing support to pre-school age children with special needs and support for the whole family.

Our condolences go out to his wife Margaret.

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Havering Museum Talks

Thursday, 12 March, 7pm - 8pm,
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Making Money in the Middle Ages
Professor Jim Bolton talks about how our medieval ancestors made, used and misused their money.

Saturday, 14 March, 2pm-3pm -
£5.00

Vicars and Vices - Andrew Curtin talks about some fascinating people from the history of Havering.

Thursday, 19 March, 6.30pm - 8pm

Tony Luscombe, shares his stories of working in Romford Market for nearly 57 years and presenting the Queen with a quilt cover.

Saturday, 28 March, 2pm - 3pm - £3.50

Danni Almond, famous stunt man shares his stories of working with the Beatles, Bob Hope and many more celebrities.

To reserve tickets for any of the Museum events ring 01708 766571, email hmmarketing@btconnect.com or pop into the museum at 19 High Street, Romford, Essex, RM1 1JU. Opening times: Wednesday - Saturday 11 am - 5pm.

WW1 Free Community Talks
As part of Havering Museum's WW1 exhibition Heritage Lottery Fund have provided funds to allow us to offer a limited number of free WW1 talks to community groups and schools. If you are interested in these free sessions contact the Museum, 01708 766571 or email hmmarketing@btconnect.com.

Friends of Havering Museum
The Friends have just launched their new annual programme of events which includes coach trips to Rye, Bury St Edmunds, and Portsmouth in addition to many local talks and walks and a trip to Brick Lane Music Hall. Become a Friends for £10 and receive 4 free talks/walks. For further information contact Ellen Owen

at Havering Museum, 01708 766571 or email fohmmembers@googlemail.com

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Havering East Rotary Club

Invites you to our Spring fundraiser **Race Night** on **Sat 14th March** at The Albany School, Broadstone Rd, Hornchurch.

6.30 for 7.00pm start - Tote with 9 races on the card - many raffle prizes to be won and Name the Bear comp.

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Thames Chase Forest Centre

Friday 13th March 2-4pm, - our afternoon **Musical Cream Tea**. £8 each (Gift vouchers available to treat someone special)

Sunday 15th March 10am-2pm - our monthly **Community Market** with produce and craft stalls.

Admission free. If you have a craft skill and want to exhibit and sell your goods, contact the Visitor Centre on 01708 642970

Sunday 22nd March 2.30-4.30pm - the second of our Sunday afternoon concerts '**In a Mellow Tone**'. Jazz for a Sunday Afternoon with Andrew Linham (saxophone) and Richard Perks (guitar). Tickets £10 including tea and cake from the Visitor Centre.

Saturday 28th March 10.30am and 1.30pm - **Theatre in the Barn**. Start the Easter school holiday by enjoying a production of **Little Red Riding Hood** by the Queens Theatre Company for youngsters 5-10years. Tickets

from the Visitor Centre. Price to be advised.

Sunday 29th March from 12 noon - enjoy a guided walk around the new tree trail at Broadfields and learn more about the trees and their use and folklore. Cafe open for refreshments and lunch. Something for all the family. £3 per adult

The Thames Chase Wildlife Group has joined the Bumblebee Conservation Trust in surveying the bumblebee population throughout the Community Forest. Two members of the Trust will be explaining the project and how we can help with protecting the bees' habitats at a meeting at the beginning of March. Visit the website www.thameschase.org.uk for the date and more information, particularly if you wish to get involved

Shirley's Tours

Wednesday 15 April: Old Time Music Hall Maidstone with 3

course lunch at hotel, with sherry, coffee + biscuits £48 Day trip by coach.

24 May - 28 May: Liverpool: View 3 Cunard Ships on River Mersey, with trips out + free time, Detailed leaflet on request.

Saturday 30 May: Trooping The Colour; Major General's Review: Tier Seats with numbered seating £4 donation requested for adults.

Saturday 20 June: River Deben River Cruise + Two Course Lunch at Gold Course, free time in Woodbridge: Pre Fathers Day treat!

Saturday 4 July: Princess Pocohontas; Gravesend/ Westminster Cruise; view Famous Barge Rowing Race; including Ploughmans lunch + Afternoon Tea.

Sunday 2 August: Highclere Castle, (Downton Abbey) Trip; Call for any cancellations.

Tuesday 4 August: Howletts Zoo, Kent. Managed by John Aspinall Foundation, African Elephants, Gorillas, Large + Small Cats, pathways are disabled

friendly; Childrens Playground and much more.

Tuesday, 11 August: Broadstairs: Lovely beach, Folk Week with entertainment: Prices on request, family tickets available

Wednesday, 19 August: Margate: Lovely beach, Dreamland reopens 2015: Famous Art Gallery (free entry) on Seafront. Family tickets available

22 August: Seven Brides For Seven Brothers: Regents Park Open Air Theatre by Coach; Matinee Show.

17 - 20 September: Honfleur: Detailed Leaflet on Request, staying in Centre of Honfleur with some meals inc + trips out, by Coach/ferry.

2 - 6 November: Llandudno: Tinsel + Turkey, Half Board with Xmas Afternoon Tea + Xmas Dinner, entertainment, + trips out.

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Wednesday Music Evenings

Wednesday 11th March - Sibelius, Nielsen & Glazunov: A Birthday Tribute - presented by Stephen Raindle

Music to celebrate the 150th anniversaries of the birth of the great Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, the Danish composer Carl Nielsen and the Russian Alexander Glazunov. There will be some wonderful music by this trio of composers and Stephen Raindle will be revealing aspects of their musical lives.

Wednesday 25th March - Well-Known and Not So - presented by Harry Newman
Music from old favourites plus a few perhaps less familiar. Harry's choices will include music from Jimmy Durante, Gordon McCrea, Flanagan & Allen, Bing Crosby, Louis Armstrong and Elvis plus some modern adaptations of works by Bizet, Saint-Saens and Khachaturian.

Both events will be held at Hornchurch Library, Main Meeting Room, First Floor from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm. Please contact Stephen Raindle on 01708 470 670 for further details.

Havering's Twins

Our Borough of Havering is not only twinned with Ludwigshafen in Germany but also with the town of Hesdin in Northern France.

Once the official twinning of Havering and Hesdin took place in 2000 some of the residents of both places formed a twinning association: Channel 2H.

The aim of Channel 2H is to forge links and to promote friendship and understanding between English and French people living on opposite sides of the Channel. To this end, for one weekend in May on alternate years, the Havering members of Channel 2H travel at their own expense to Hesdin where they stay with the

French members of Channel 2H. In intervening years the French members come to stay for the weekend in Havering with their English hosts. This year it is Havering's turn to welcome the French members of Channel 2H.

A Quiz Night is being held on 18th April 2015 at Cranham Community Centre in Marlborough Gardens, Upminster in order to raise money to subsidize the cost of events which are being arranged for our French visitors.

Please note that this will be a general knowledge quiz so no detailed knowledge of France or the French language is needed!

For further details of the Quiz Night and how to obtain tickets see the notice later in The Bulletin listed under Local Events.

For more information about Channel 2H and membership contact the Chairperson, Joyce Winn by email: hugh_joyce@hotmail.co.uk

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Cranham Social Hall

60s Nite Sell Out; We could have filled the hall twice. It seems that Cranham folk are missing the Dances etc arranged by the RA Social Committee. The Front Lane Community Association will try to fill the gap, with some social events at the Cranham Social Hall. We hope to bring the 60s group back some time. Please let me know if you have any ideas for the future. (224166). At our "Coffee and Conversation" group Christmas Party we had a great time with a sing along and dancing to "Kevin James", and we hope to invite him to sing again for us some time in the summer. Watch this space!

We are very pleased to have received a donation from the Residents' Association Social Committee, many thanks. We plan to use this money to maintain the flower beds in the driveway to the car park.

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NCT's Next Nearly New Sale

The NCT will be holding their next Nearly New Sale at Frances Bardsley School, Brentwood Road, Romford RM1 2RR on Saturday 21st March. Doors open to members at 10am and for non-members at 10.15am until 12 noon. Why not come along and get yourself some fantastic bargains! Good quality clothes for babies and children, maternity wear, cots, strollers, high chairs, books, toys, bikes and more...

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Blood tests

Blood tests in the afternoon can only been done at Queens Hospital. There are no blood tests done in the community clinics during the afternoon. Blood tests on children under 16 years of age can only be done at Queens Hospital.

These tests cannot be done in the community clinics.

Upminster Social Committee

For many years, the Association's Upminster Social Committee has organised numerous dances. Due to attendances dropping off and with no new committee members coming forward, the committee comprising of Pat and John Mylod, Shirley and Ron Edwards have decided to call it a day.

Over the years they regularly donated cash to local organisations.

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They have donated the balance of their funds as follows: Havering Alzheimers Society, Remus Animal Sanctuary, Wanderers Dog Haven and the Cranham Social Centre at £250 each and the balance of £600 to First Step Children's Charity.

Pat, John, Shirley and Ron wish to thank every one for their past support.

This is an end to a great era.

C.C.C. Whist Drives

The Wednesday and Friday Whist Clubs - held in Room 10 at the Marlborough Gardens Community Centre - held their Christmas Party Drives at the beginning of December.

Apart from enjoying a great night playing cards, all the members were presented with a choice of gifts to choose from at the end of the evenings. Cash Prizes during the Whist Drives ranged from a top prize of £15 ranging to lower

prizes of £3 and a very social evening was had by all.

December 2014 was also the culmination of our first year of playing Military Whist. This game is only held once a month (usually the third Thursday each month) and consists of tables of four players competing against each other, once again for cash prizes. This Session starts at 8pm sharp and finishes at 10pm.

Information on any of these activities can be obtained from either myself, Harry (01708 227 457) or Linda (01708 458 328). Whist Drives are held on Wednesdays and Fridays from 7.30pm to 9.45pm both evenings. Beginners are welcome and one-to-one tuition is available.

Upminster Probus

The Upminster and District Probus Club is always looking for new members

continued on page 12

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Upminster and District Probus Club has over 70 members and meets on the last Wednesday of the month, except December, at The Cranleigh Restaurant, Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6LX. We gather at around 11.30 a.m. to socialise before sitting down at 12.00 noon for business, followed by an excellent three course lunch with tea or coffee. After the meal, members are entertained by a variety of speakers. Talks so far have included '40 years in aviation', 'British Airways', the 1942 'St Nazaire raid', 'prison chaplaincy' and the 'Whitechapel Mission'.

Throughout the year the club, in conjunction with the Ladies Probus Club, organises a number of coach outings to various places of interest, to which family and friends are welcome. Last year the club enjoyed a tour of the Lords Cricket ground, the Bank of England Museum and the London Fire Brigade Museum to mention just a few.

This club provides an opportunity

for retired or semi-retired gentlemen to meet in friendship and make new acquaintances. Further information can be obtained from our website www.upminsterprobus.com or by leaving a message for Barry Walsh on 01708 703783.

Rotary Quiz for Charities

The Rotary Club of Hornchurch & Upminster will be holding its annual quiz evening in aid of international charities at the St Laurence Church Main Hall in Corbets Tey Road, Upminster [next door to Upminster Library] on Saturday March the 28th, at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Tables are for teams of eight, but please also join us if you are unable to field eight players because you can be coupled with others in the same position as yourselves.

Tickets, which include either a fish and chips, chicken and chips

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or vegetarian supper, cost £12.50 and are available from John Kent telephone 01708 449 118 or e-mail johnbkent@ntlworld.com Please bring your own drinks and nibbles.

W.O.W.

W.O.W. - Wonders of Women is the theme for the Havering 2015 International Women's Day Event, taking place on **Saturday 7th March, 11.30 - 4pm** at Havering College F&HE, Ardleigh Green Rd, Hornchurch, RM11 2LL.

Celebrating the valuable, positive and diverse contribution and achievements women make to our community in Havering, the event aims to inspire women to challenge themselves by taking up new opportunities.

Throughout the day there will be inspirational speakers telling their stories on the challenges and successes they have faced, achieved and overcome, as well

as stalls and interactive workshops to assist women striving to gain different goals.

Tapestry (formerly known as Age Concern Havering) will also be in attendance and staff and volunteers will be available to give advice and information on cancer and dementia related issues.

There really will be something for everyone, refreshments and lunch will be available and admission is free!

Contact: Angela Tilley. Email: angela.tilley@tapestry-uk.org Tel No: 01708 345138

Emerson Park Badminton Club

Emerson Park Social Badminton Club are looking for new players, no membership just turn up and play cost £4 on a Thursday night from 7.30 to 9.30 at Emerson Park school (term time only) any questions call Kevin on 01708 250 803.

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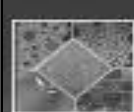
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Greenfingers Gardening Club

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NADFAS Havering

On Tuesday 10th March, NADFAS (Havering) welcomes Mr Clive Barham Carter, giving a talk entitled 'Up the Nile with Amelia: A Victorian Journey' Lecture 10.45am. Coffee from 10.00am. Visitors welcome at £6. Meetings held at the Willow Hall, Romford Baptist Church, Main Road, Romford RM1 3BL. Further details to be found at www.haveringdfas.org.uk.

RSPB

The RSPB Havering Group present an illustrated talk "Achieved Ambition - My Visit to the Falkland Islands" by Robin Jeffrey. To be held on Friday March 12 in Hornchurch Library at 7-45pm. Meeting fee £3.

More information from Janet Silver 01708 452 171.

RSPB Havering will have a coach trip to RSPB Strumpshaw Fen, Norfolk on Saturday March 28 for a day of birding. Seats on coach cost £17 each. Coach picks up in Ilford, Romford and Harold Wood.

For more details and to book, telephone Ed Neller on 01708 558 399.

Russell Savoury

Essex Wildlife Trust, Havering Group will hold an illustrated talk "Wildlife of Stow Maries Aerodrome" by Russell Savoury on Monday 9 March, in Hornchurch Library at 8pm. Requested donation £2, light

refreshments.
 More information from Joy Emerson on 01708 440 297.

Free Training for Voluntary Groups

Are you ever approached by people who are looking for information or support on issues such as debt, benefits, housing etc? Have you ever wished you could help without having to send them elsewhere?

The Havering Access to Advice project, which is part of the Citizens Advice Bureau, is offering free foundation information and advice training to voluntary and community groups in Havering. The courses run for one day a week over a six week period. Your group would then have the option of signing up with the A2A project to receive additional telephone support and access to specialist advice services.

For more information ring Tony on 01708 763531, access our website access2advicehavering.org.uk or follow us on twitter @A2Ahavering.

A Quiz Night for Kenya

(Raising money to help with school fees) on Saturday 14th March starting at 7.30pm at North Street Hall, North Street, Hornchurch.

£6 each. Tables of 8-10. B.Y.O. drink and nibbles. Contact Mrs Terry Keens 01708 473408 or Parish of Hornchurch Office 01708 441571. (If you'd like to come but can't make up a table, call me, I can seat you with others !)

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Coopers Company & Coborn School Outdoor boot sale on Saturday 28th March at 10am. £8 car; £10 van/trailers. Tel: 07508 135 449.

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Beethoven and Turner: Parallel Lives.

Speaker: Andrew Rothwell.

Saturday March 14th at 2.15
(doors open at 1.45).

Roope Hall, Upminster United Reform Church.

Cost: £4 including tea and biscuits.

Fairkytes Accordion Band

Val from the Band informs us that they raised £208.30 for St Francis Hospice outside Fishy Business, Corbets Tey Road, just before Christmas.

Well done again.

Cappella Singers' Spring Concert

The Cappella Singers of Upminster are presenting their Spring Concert, including music

by J.S. Bach, on Friday 27th March at 8pm at The Old Chapel, St. Mary's Lane, Upminster (next to the Sacred Heart of Mary School).

Tickets at £10 inclusive of light refreshments may be purchased on the door or in advance from Mr. Ian Pirie (01708 641718).

Thurrock Male Voice Choir

Cranham Baptist Church, Severn Drive, Upminster, presents **Thurrock Male Voice Choir** in Concert, in aid of St. Francis Hospice and Medicines sans Frontieres Ebola Centre, Sierra Leone. **Saturday 28th March 2015 at 7:30pm. Tickets at £5 per person** (including refreshments) from **01708 223 551**.

Springtime in Song

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

performers and music from many loved shows of Opera and Musical Theatre, this concert marks the launch of JMS Music in the Community; raising money to launch local Music projects across Upminster.

Tickets are £15, including interval refreshments. For more information and bookings, tel: 01708 510 031 / 07932 416 102 or contact through: www.joannamariesoprano.com

British Sugarcraft

This month's demonstration takes place on Saturday the 7th March at Hornchurch Library, from 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

There will be a demonstration on Mothers Day Spray by Doreen Wood.

Entrance £6 includes tea and cake, pay at the door. Further details from Brenda on 01277 810 498

Charity Match

There is a charity football match at AFC Hornchurch ground in Bridge Avenue, on Sunday 29th

March, for cystic fibrosis sufferer Channon Petrides. Sadly Channon, aged 22, has only 12-18 months to live, and has bravely decided to raise as much money as she can to raise awareness of the disease - celebrities pledging to play in the game include Ricky Rayment and Frank Major from The Only Way is Essex Jack Tweed, model Sam Reece Eckhardt, Big Brother star Winston Showan, Ross Worswick from Ex on the Beach, and Kenny Brown, the former West Ham United player.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Havering Arts Festival

Havering Arts Council is celebrating its 50th birthday, and also that of Havering as a London Borough, by holding an Arts Festival which will run from April to July. There will be over 40 events taking place throughout the borough, including drama, music, visual arts, and much more. Several events will be taking

continued on page 17

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place at Upminster Old Chapel, Cappella Singers will be performing at Trinity United Reformed Church, Upminster, and Guildonian Players and Wesley Players at the Methodist Churches in Harold Wood and Upminster respectively.

Watch out for the Havering Arts Festival brochure, go to www.haveringartscouncil.org.uk. Details of each month's events will also be covered in the next few Bulletins.

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For more details or other classes in the area www.keepfit.org.uk

Coach Outing News

Please note the first trip this year is on Saturday 18th April to Windsor

You can't say the word Windsor without conjuring up images of the worlds oldest and largest inhabited

castle, add to this Eaton College, the River Thames, quaint one-of-a-kind shops and an abundance of pubs, restaurants or cafes and you'll have a reasonable idea of the treats in-store in Windsor.

Don't forget to check the "Association Diary" each month for booking details, whom to contact and cost.

Kindly note trips cannot be booked until booking details have been published in the Association Diary on the back page of your *Bulletin*.

Twinning Quiz Night

Saturday 18th April. Quiz Night in support of the Channel 2H Twinning Association of Havering at the Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens, Upminster RM14 1SR.

Doors open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. Tables of up to 8. Bring your own drinks, glasses and snacks. Tickets £6.

To book a table contact Anne Sambidge: 01708 224703.

St Francis Hospice

Hornchurch & Upminster Rotary Club's annual sponsored walk in September 2014 raised over £7,000, all of which will be given to assist the Hospice in its work of providing support for adults with life limiting illnesses.

Wanderers Haven Animal Sanctuary

Open Day Saturday 25th April, at the sanctuary 10.30am - 4.30pm Brookmans Park Drive, Front Lane, Cranham, RM14 1LW. Various stalls, charities, tombola, raffle, hot and cold refreshments available all day. Come and visit all of our animals; permanent residents and those looking for new homes. Donations of bedding and animal feed gratefully received.

Monday 23rd March fun quiz at the Crumpled Horn Pub, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster. 7.30pm start. Raffle will also be held with

continued on page 19

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London Marathon

I work in Monarch Hairdressers Cranham. I am running the marathon on April 26th for Great Ormond Street Hospital. I have a justgiving page on www.virginmoneygiving.com/MariaMegan

Maria Moccasitano

Cranham Social Hall

Join us for **Coffee and Conversations special Easter Event** on 27th March. Tea/Coffee will be served from 10.30 am. We will then be having a musical interlude with **Jeff Short** plus **Karl** on the keyboard.

This will be followed by a fish and chip lunch. Tickets £9 available from the hall in Front Lane on Friday mornings or call Val on 224 166

We Need You!

The Haverettes All Girls marching band are looking for new recruits, so if your daughter is interested please contact us on 07814 145 312 or find us on facebook or YouTube under Haverettes All Girls Marching Band or on Twitter under Haverettes All Girls. The age limit is 8 years and over. You can learn to play a musical instrument with free tuition. We meet Tuesdays and Thursdays 7.30pm to 9.30 at Redden Court School, Harold Wood.

Dunton Garden Suburb

As we went to press we were advised of the following:
"Proposed development by Basildon and Brentwood councils to build approx. 6,000 houses along with traveller pitches between West Horndon and Laindon."

A Bulphan resident living near the site gave us the following comments:

Regardless of the devastating impact on local residents and

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infrastructure, the impact felt by surrounding towns and all users of the A127 will also be huge. The fact that the Green Belt is being suggested for use, I believe is a very slippery slope that Upminster residents should be very concerned about.

Please see the site for more info: <http://duntongardensuburb.uk> which also gives details on how to object.

Havering Council will be making representations on this and we will keep you informed.

FUTURE EVENTS MARCH 2015

- 6 Friday - a warm invitation to all women and men to come to the Trinity URC Church, Upminster (next door to Roome's, to pray for the women of The Bahamas at the 2015 Women's World Day of Prayer. 2-3pm followed by refreshments.
- 7 Saturday - **The Havering Branch of the East of London Family History Society** hold meetings on the first Saturday of every month at Trinity Church, Gaynes Road, Upminster RM14 2YS doors open at 1pm meeting starts at 2pm. The Computer Group meets at the same venue 11am - 1pm a Q&A session is followed by Teas and coffees which can

be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both. Admission free.

- 11 Wednesday - **Harold Wood Library** have **Young at Heart. Life in the 60's. 'Talking Book'**. Eileen Williams will entertain us with stories about her life in the 1960s. 11.00 am - 12 Noon. Adult age group Entrance £1.00 including refreshments.
- 12 Friday - **Havering Antique and Collectors Club** meet at the Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood have Guest Speaker Steve Lester on **"Insights of a Provincial Auctioneer"**.
7.30 pm for 8 pm start. For further details please call our Chairman Mrs Jan Halsey on 01708 373574.
- 25 Wednesday - **Upminster Park Townswomen's Guild** have their Annual General Meeting / Charity Unwanted Gift Auction. Meetings are held in Derham Hall (behind the Library in Upminster) from 1.45 pm - 4 pm once a month.
- 30 Monday - **Breathe Easy - Havering** In aid of British Lung Foundation, have guest speakers every month held at St Andrews Church, Hornchurch, 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm. Cost is £2 including light refreshments. For further information please ring Joyce 01708 226696 or Elaine 01708 509127.
- 30 Monday - **Romford Historical Society**, meet at Myplace, 343 Dagnam Park Drive, Harold Hill, RM3 9EN, Doors open 7.30 pm Meeting starts 8 pm, have

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Upminster Library Events

Saturday 14th March Essex and the Great War

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Tuesday 17th March Adult Craft Workshop – Easter Boxes and Baskets

Try different craft techniques in a friendly Environment. All abilities welcome. All materials supplied. Booking Essential 1.30-3.00. £6.00. Members / £7.50 Non members. Upminster.library@havering.gov.uk or ring 01708 4349 33 to book.

Thursday 19th March Sew and Swish Workshop

Find out how to prolong the life of your clothes whilst also learning a new skill so that you can mend, alter, customise or reconstruct your garments. Booking Essential – www.havering.gov.uk/sewandswish 2.00-4.30. Free.

Tuesday 23rd March Baby Sensory Taster Session

A fun and stimulating activity session for parent and baby.

10.30am-11.15am. Ages up to 13 months. £2 Members / £3.50 Non members. Booking essential. Upminster.library@havering.gov.uk or ring 01708 434933 to book.

Tuesday 31st March JOYZ (Just for You Zone)

Sewing Workshop
Learn how to transform a garment. Contact:- patriciajm001@gmail.com 07804 298 352.

For more information or to book your place. 12.00pm-2.00pm. Over 18. £10.00.

Springfield Contact Centre

The Springfield Contact Centre, which is attached to the Baptist Church in Springfield Gardens, Upminster, RM14 3EH, will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary on the 14th March. 2015.

The Centre provides facilities whereby children whose parents do not live together can spend time with their non-resident parent from 10am. to 12 noon on alternate Saturdays in a welcoming, friendly and safe environment. At the Centre, children and parents are able to play together and maintain a

relationship which may otherwise not be possible.

Applications for places at the Centre are made by Solicitors and Family courts usually when there is no parental agreement over contact or if there are other problems. Self-referrals are also received. Demand for places is generally high and it is often necessary to maintain a waiting list.

The Centre's Co-ordinator, Mrs Tricia Griffiths and her team of helpers are all volunteers and they are supported by a Management Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. John Fortune.

The Centre is affiliated to the National Association of Child Contact Centres which carried out an appraisal of the Centre in 2014 and has reaccredited the centre for a further three years.

As part of the 20th anniversary celebrations, a reception and thanksgiving service are being held at the Baptist Church on Saturday 14th March, beginning at 4pm. The Minister, Rev. Mark Davison will conduct the service and anyone who is interested and able to come will be made most welcome.

Friends of Upminster Mini-Golf Course

The next meeting of the 'Friends of Upminster Mini-Golf Course' will be held on 5th March (7:30pm) at the St Joseph's Social Centre, St Mary's Lane. The aim of the group is to secure the future of the mini-golf course as a community asset while protecting it as a green and open space. We have had two excellent meetings so far and anyone interested is very welcome to come along on the 5th. For further details please contact me at cllrclarencebarrett@yahoo.co.uk or call 07863 116029.

CLLR CLARENCE BARRETT

Murder Mystery Night

The Wesley Players have kindly agreed to do another Murder Mystery on Friday 13th March at Upminster Methodist Church in Hall Lane, to help fund the work done by the Church with youngsters.

continued on page 22



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ASSOCIATION COUNCILLORS:

Cranham Ward:

Cllr June Alexander
1 Lexington Way RM14 1NT
(227092)
june.alexander@haverling.gov.uk

Cllr Clarence Barrett
7 Ashvale Gardens RM14 3NA
(07863 116029)
clarence.barrett@haverling.gov.uk

Cllr Gillian Ford
10 Dorkins Way RM14 1XX
(641317)
gillian.ford@haverling.gov.uk

Upminster Ward:

Cllr Linda Hawthorn
34 Cedar Gardens RM14 3DL
(225451)
linda.hawthorn@haverling.gov.uk

Cllr Ron Ower
28 Derham Gardens
RM14 3HA
(07721 780 372)

bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk

Cllr Linda Van Den Hende
93 Sunnyside Gardens
Upminster RM14 3DP
(223761)

linda.vandenhende@haverling.gov.uk

ASSOCIATION CONTACTS:

Editor:

Cllr Ron Ower
28 Derham Gardens
RM14 3HA
(07721 780372)
[email: bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk)

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Upminster Organizer:

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Even if you aren't a super sleuth these plays are still great fun, and you never know it could be you who spots the important clue that solves the murder. Tickets are £10 and includes a meal and are available to buy from Peter Hobbs on 01708 224891.

Wesley Guild

On Saturday 7 March in the Wesley Hall, Upminster Methodist Church, Hall Lane (10am to 12 noon) the Wesley Guild's annual charity coffee morning and sale in aid of the Whitechapel Mission. Stalls to include home-made cakes, bric-a-brac and books (to include vintage paperbacks from a private collection). The Mission, which was founded in 1876 and which receives no public funding, cares for the poor and homeless of London regardless of race or religion in their struggle against hunger, poverty and exclusion. Thursday 19 March in the Minor Hall, Upminster Methodist Church (8pm). Guild meeting with guest speaker, local author Peter Caton on his "Suffolk Coast Walk". All are welcome. Meeting fee: £1.50.

Horticultural Society

We are delighted to have James Crebbin- Bailey to start our new season of lectures. He is recognised as a specialist in Sculptural Topiary and he has won many awards at RHS shows and elsewhere since 2002. He was a Gold medallist at RHS Chelsea

Flower Shows 2011 and 2012 and a Silver Gilt medallist in 2013. He has appeared on TV and his "topiary and tuition" are featured in several books. Maybe he will be showing us how to create new and innovative shapes or classical designs, re-shape our existing Topiary or our gardens. Come along and see for yourself. The talk will take place in the New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster On Tuesday 10th March from 7.45 p.m. to 9.45 p.m., doors open at 7.15 p.m. 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, info@upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk

All Saints Church

21st March at 7.30pm in the Vestry Hall, All Saints' Church, The Chase, Cranham. Our speaker is Simon Dinsdale an ex-detective telling us about "Cold Case" crimes in the Essex area. "The Real New Tricks"! Cost £6, includes sandwich supper and coffee.

QUIZ NIGHT

25th April at 7.30pm in the Vestry Hall, All Saints' Church, The Chase, Cranham. A Quiz. Tables of 8-10. Cost £6 including coffee. Bring your own snacks/nibbles.

Please contact Helene on 01708 225 629 for both of the events

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speaker Brian Curtois speaking on "More Memorable Moments Reporting for the BBC". Visitor fee £2.50.

31 Tuesday - **Harold Wood Library** are holding Easter Fairy Cakes. Come and join us in some Easter fun and decorate some yummy cakes to take home with you. 4.30 pm - 5.30 pm Ages 4 - 10 years. £3.00 members / £3.50 non members.

APRIL 2015

4 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 Rd, Upminster RM14 2SJ doors open at 1pm meeting starts at 2pm. This month the talk is 'Men of Bad Character' wage decline in farming 19c with Jeffery Page. The Computer Group meets at the same venue 11am - 1pm where a Q&A session is followed by 'Family History @ Your Fingertips' by Meryl Catty. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both. Admission free.

4 Saturday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL

5 Sunday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL.

7 Tuesday - **Ogthorpe Women's Institute** will not be meeting at the Cranham Social Hall this month.

17 Friday - **Havering Antique Collectors Club** meet at The Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood have Guest Speaker Judith Miller (Antiques Roadshow) on Candle-sticks. 7.30 pm for 8 pm start. Chairman Mrs Jan Halsey on 01708 373574. (Please note due to Easter falling on our usual date of 3rd Friday, the April meeting will be on 17th instead).

18 Saturday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL

18 Saturday **Quiz Night** in support of the Channel 2H Twinning Association of Havering at The Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens,

Upminster, RM14 1SR. Doors open at 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Tables of up to 8. Bring your own drinks, glasses and snacks. Tickets £6. To book a table contact Anne Sambidge: 01708 224703.

19 Sunday - **Upminster Windmill Open Day**, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Mill Field, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL.

25 Wednesday - **The Upminster and District Probus Club** holds meetings on the last Wednesday of each month, except December, at The Cranleigh Restaurant, Hornchurch, at 11.30am for 12.00pm start. For more information, go to www.upminsterprobus.com or telephone Barry Walsh 01708 703783 and leave a message.

12 Thursday. Cranham Ward meeting, Cranham Community Centre. 7.45pm.

APRIL

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

9 Thursday. Cranham Ward Meeting at Cranham Community Centre. 7.45pm.

Association Coach Outing

Windsor on Saturday 18th April
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 Bookings with Mrs Fiona Cook 01708 229 318 from Monday 9th March between 7pm and 9pm please.

ASSOCIATION DIARY

MARCH

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

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