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Continental Dartford Crossing Users who 'Skip Toll'



It is quite staggering that nearly 3.5m fines have been issued to drivers for not paying the Dartford Crossing charge since the toll booths were removed nearly two years ago. Even more worrying is that, of the 3.5m, 745,000 relate to foreign vehicles. The outstanding 'continental' fines have been referred to the European debt recovery agency, but with little hope of success I would suggest. Notwithstanding the principle that the toll should be scrapped, rather than pursuing foreign vehicles for debt once they have been and gone, we should introduce a system whereby vehicles registered overseas must pay a deposit upon entry to the country and any tolls or fines are deducted from this sum. Any balance, full or partial, would then be credited back via an electronic payment system upon departure.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

December Ward Meeting

I am pleased to announce that Steve Moore, the Director of Neighbourhoods, will be attending the Upminster ward meeting on 7th December at 7.30pm at St Joseph's School Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster. He has been asked in particular to cover issues of parks and open spaces, but issues covering refuse, streetcare, parking etc. will also be covered. We will also have our traditional Christmas mince pies and drinks. All are welcome.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Christmas Lights

Delighted to inform you that the switching on of the Christmas Lights at Bell Corner, Upminster will take place on Thursday 24th November from 4pm to 6pm. Lights will be switched on at 5pm. In the past these have been great nights especially for the children.

Upminster Police Update

In recent months, the number of burglaries has remained low as have thefts of and from motor vehicles. As the nights get darker, we are reminded to take extra care in keeping lights on, timer switches are useful for this, and ensuring we properly lock doors and windows when we are out, never leaving articles on show in cars to encourage theft. The priorities for the Upminster team remain burglary, motor vehicle crime and speeding, checks which will continue on an ad hoc basis.



Remember to report any crime or unusual activity via the 101 number as even the smallest piece of information may add to other intelligence. If the criminal act is ongoing always call 999.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN
HENDE

Corbets Tey Village



As readers may remember, a new regeneration committee for Corbets Tey village was set up recently, looking into ways of restoring the conservation area. I am pleased to say that progress has been made, and very shortly, the

pavements outside the shops will be relaid with York style paving, the galley will be removed, and a planter and new bin installed. The plant troughs outside the Huntsman and Hounds are also being re-planted, to add some colour - other plans are in the pipeline. Hopefully, the village will soon take on a new image - there is lots to do, and some will take time, so please bear with us.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Urgent News: Solar Park

As we go to press, Havering Council has started consultation on the building of two Solar Parks in the Borough. One site in this area is close to Gerpins Lane Tip. Further information will be in next months *Bulletin*.

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New Police Sergeant

I am pleased to say that Upminster Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) has a new Sergeant who started on 3 October. Sgt. Ian Bargus will be shared between Upminster and Hylands ward as a result of a new policing structure. The Borough is now split into two Areas, for SNT management, Upminster forming one ward in the south cluster. Inspector Maxine Blackledge leads the south cluster and is based at Hornchurch police station. We welcome Sgt Bargus to Upminster.

CLlr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Abigail's Column

Mind it



The media reported a lot on children's mental health recently but it was only since the 1900's that mental

health was recognised.

For this article I asked Psychotherapist Ellen Umhoefer at Honey Counselling for some facts and advice on how young people can take care of their mental health.

A few facts:

- Neuroscience and technology has taught us that physiological stress can make us sick.
- 10% of 5-16 year olds have mental health problems but 70% of these do not get help.
- When you are stressed your brain activates Cortisol and adrenalin; this can make you fight, flight or freeze in response to a problem.

Signs if someone is distressed. If they get a sudden change of behaviour, more withdrawn, showing repetitive behaviours, more sensitive and tearful and behaving badly and acting out to receive attention. It is common for young people to take things out on themselves and even self-harm.

If you are stressed

- you can take deep breaths
- Look at the problem in a different way

- Take a break - listen to music, read
 - Do some exercise
- If this doesn't help tell an adult. There are ways to help like talk therapy, medications or both. If you are worried about a friend or your child please speak out. With thanks to Ellen Umhoefer BSc (HONS) MBACP, Psychotherapist, Honey Counselling, 07963 206742, www.honeycounselling.co.uk

Christmas Tree Festival

Upminster Methodist Church will be holding its annual Christmas Tree Festival between the 3rd and 11th of December. In its sixth year it provides a lovely introduction to the Christmas season for all ages. The theme this year is "Let's Celebrate" and we have invited local schools and organisations from the church and community to decorate trees for this event using this idea.

The opening times are Saturdays 10-5pm, Sundays 2-5pm and Weekdays 2-6pm.

The Festival opens on Saturday 3rd December at 10am and there

will be refreshments available all day. In the church halls there will be a Christmas Market with craft and charity stalls selling cards, gifts, cakes and other festive goods.

Visits from community groups during the week to see the trees are welcome. Entrance is free: donations to our chosen charities. For more details, please contact the Church Office 01708222278 or email upmethodistchurch@btinternet.com

James Oglethorpe Primary School

The James Oglethorpe Primary School is holding an Open Event on the 3rd November Thursday 4pm to 5.30pm when parents of preschool age children will be warmly welcomed to come and see what the school has to offer. The event provides opportunity for parents and their children to look round the school and to meet staff and some current and former pupils. Enquiries from parents with older children also welcome.

To book a place, please telephone the school: 01708 225202.

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Saturday Talks Club

November 12th - Manet and Degas. The speaker is Katy Brown.
December 10th - New York New York. The speaker is Andrew Rothwell.

Venue Roope Hall, United Reform Church, Station Road, Upminster at 2.15 pm (Doors open 1.45). Cost £ 4 including tea and biscuits. Contact Mrs Blake 01708 227512 or Mrs Bland 01689 858701 for further information. All welcome.

Watch that Speed!

Speeding vehicles are not only a danger to pedestrians and other road users, but also household pets. There have been an increasing number of incidents in the local area where residents have lost their pets, Heron Way and Deyncourt Gardens being recent examples. While the police do undertake speed checks across the area, please bear in mind that slowing down a little gives more time to react, more space to stop in, consumes less fuel, reduces pollution and gives a better

chance of survival of anyone or anything that is hit!

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Upminster Library Events

November 3rd Techy Teas

Learn how to use the full potential of your laptop, mobile phone or tablet. Just bring along your device and an active Havering Libraries card and one of our team will show you how.

10:30-12:30

Adults. Free

Tuesday 15th November Adult Craft Workshop- Christmas Paper craft, Simple decorations and gift boxes

Try different craft techniques in a friendly environment. All abilities welcome. All materials supplied. Advance booking essential. 1.30-3.00. £6.00 members/£7.50 non members

Tuesday 22nd November Beatrix Potter Storytime, songs and craft

Help us celebrate Beatrix Potter's 150th Birthday
10:30-11:30. Suitable for ages 5 and under £4.00 library members / £5.50 non members.

Thursday 1st December

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Reading Buddies

Extra Reading Help for Children. Informal After School Group

Volunteers at Upminster Library are available after school to listen to your child read.

Mondays 3:30 - 4:30 (term time only). FREE

Drop in session, just come along Christmas Shopping Evening Stall Holders Needed

Wednesday 7th December 6-10pm.

We are looking for craft sellers to take part in our Christmas Shopping Evening.

Spaces will be £10 and you must provide your own table

Please contact upminster.library@haverling.gov.uk with a description and photo of your products if you are interested.

Welcome

Sweet Rose Cakery has just opened at 162 St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM143BS. They have

a wide variety of cakes and offer afternoon teas, extreme shakes, salads, panini and lots more.

Fireworks Display

The Upminster Junior School PA and Upminster Infant School PTA Annual Firework Display will be taking place on the school field on Saturday 5th November. Display starts at 6:30pm with the gates opening at 5:30pm. Entry is at the entrance accessed via the road by the Crumpled Horn pub. There will be refreshments and a barbecue. Tickets will be on sale during the week starting 31st October from the Junior School office or after school in the playground, priced at £6 for adults and £4 for children. Tickets are also on sale on Saturday 5th outside the school entrance next to Superdrug or on the gate from 5:30pm and the price on the day is £7 for adults and £5 for children. Please do try and get your tickets early to avoid any upset. Any questions or for ticket information please contact Sarah Horne on info@ujspa.org.uk

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Ardleigh Green Bridge Update

TFL are planning a weekend closure of the A127 for the weekend of November 4 - 7 2016 to allow the demolition of the eastern bridge carriageway. Residents and businesses will be notified nearer the time on this. As soon as we get further information we will publicise on our Facebook page and website (www.hwhpra.org.uk). I have also requested more signage for the roads to advise drivers that there is no through access to the A127 from Bryant Avenue as we have had vehicles driving up there and in surrounding roads trying to find a way out only to find there isn't one and then they have had to turn around and re-join the A12. TFL have been advised of this.

CLlr DARREN WISE

Become a Befriender

The Havering Association for

People with Disabilities (HAD) provide a range of services for people with physical and sensory disabilities and their carers living in Havering. We are seeking volunteers for our Befriending Service. If you can spare a few hours a week or month to have a chat or share a pastime with a disabled person so that they can spend quality time independently from their carer.

Some activities our befrienders enjoy including bowling, going to the cinema or museums. If you fancy something more relaxing you could play board games or simply share stories over a cuppa. HAD organise a DBS check, provide training and support. We also pay travelling expenses and reasonable out of pocket expenses. For more information about how you could transform someone's life and quite possibly your own please contact Clare Kelly 01708 476554 or Clarekelly@hadhaverling.co.uk

Thames Chase

Thames Chase Trust, after long negotiations, has secured a long

lease from Essex County Council on the majority of the Forest Centre in Pike Lane. However, a substantial amount needs to be raised to secure the working section of the Centre to retain offices for the Trust and the Forestry Commission with whom the Trust shares the Broadfields Farm site. Donations are always appreciated through the website www.thameschase.org.uk or at the Centre.

Upcoming events include:

Friday 11th November - Discovering Thames Chase coffee morning from 10.30am. Learn about the regeneration of the Community Forest and then enjoy a guided walk on **Friday 25th November**.

Friday 18th November - cream tea with live music 2.30-4.30pm (Booking essential)

Saturday 19th / Sunday 20th November - Pre- Christmas Fair. Find that unique gift or stock up on seasonal fayre from 10am-4pm each day.

Sunday 27th November - illustrative talk on British Light Music Classics by Brian Luck.

11am-1pm. including

refreshments.

Sunday 11th December - a celebration of Christmas traditions followed by carols with Upminster and Cranham Churches Together.

Friday 16th December - cream tea with Christmas music 2.30-4.30pm (Booking essential)

Sunday 18th December - Christmas market with craft and produce stalls and live music. 10am-3pm.

More information on the website www.thameschase.org.uk

Residents' Association Councillors

At the last local elections in 2014 a record number of Independent Residents' Association Councillors were elected onto Havering Council. In fact, with just a handful more votes in Emerson Park three more would have been elected.

We are hoping that even more will be elected in 2018.

continued on page 7

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If you had ever considered standing as a Residents' Association Councillor and wish to discuss please contact me on 07721 780372.

Cllr RON OWER

stress that there will be arrangements in place for those who do not use computers thus enabling person to person contact.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Council Website to be Revamped

One of my responsibilities on the Council is to oversee IT applications, such as the Council website. Where once it was at the forefront of technology, the passage of time has brought about a compelling need to review and relaunch the website so that it is as user friendly as possible, visitors can find what they need with the minimum of clicks and transaction facilities are as simple as possible. A lot of work has been ongoing with the website and a new version will be launched over the next few months. Improvements will be added as it goes along until the whole site is completely refreshed, redesigned and fit for purpose. While access to council services is quicker and easier via the website, it is important to

Free Wills & LPA Advice Seminar

Pinney Talfourd will be holding their next free Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney information events on 11 and 12 November. Over half of the population in the UK do not have a Will and this unfortunately can lead to difficulties upon death. Ensure that your affairs are in order to minimise stress for your family before and after your death. Join one of our free events to hear a short presentation about the different types of Will and LPA, and get some free tailored advice from one of our solicitors over a coffee afterwards. Places are limited and these events are always popular so please book early to avoid disappointment. Choice of two dates: Friday 11th

November or Saturday 12th November
Time (each event): 11am - 12.30pm
Venue (each event) Pinney Talfourd LLP Solicitors, 54 Station Road, Upminster, Essex, RM14 2TU
For more information and to book your free place please call Charlotte Butler on 01708 229444 or email marketing@pinneytalfourd.co.uk

Calling All Third Ager

Having launched successfully last month, Upminster's newest group - University of the Third Age - will hold its first "proper" meeting on Tuesday 15 November 2016. If you didn't manage to sign up for membership in October, you can still join us at this (or any other monthly) meeting - just don't forget your chequebook! Meetings are held on the third Tuesday monthly (except in December). This month U3A members can enjoy a light-hearted talk about the hazards of the retail business, in particular charity shops, followed by tea & biscuits and conversation! Come along at 1.00

pm to the Methodist Church Hall, Hall Lane, Upminster. For further information please contact info@upminsteru3a.org.uk or check out our Facebook page - https://www.facebook.com/upminsteru3a/.

HSBC Bank

Many locals will remember that the home of HSBC Bank at 21 Station Road was the home of the former Midland Bank. At the end of August HSBC wrote to customers informing them that they were closing the Upminster branch on Friday 18th November at 2.30pm and were transferring accounts to their branch at 173 High Street, Hornchurch, RM11 3YS. Also they have a branch at 9, Market Place, Romford RM1 3AF. Opening times are Monday to Friday 9.30am to 5pm - except Tuesdays 9.30am to 5 pm and on Saturdays 9am to 4pm. HSBC did point out that with an agreement with the Post Office at 28, Station Road, Upminster you can use any of their counters to pay in cash or cheques, withdraw money and check your balance for your personal account.

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New Phone Scam

I have been contacted regarding a new phone scam operating in Havering. This is how it works. Someone uses your name, address and phone number and sets up a BT account requesting a new mobile phone to be sent to them. It's the top of the range £600 version. It arrives and about two hours later, someone saying they are from BT calls and says they are sending a courier to collect the phone as there has been some mistake. They arrive, obviously NOT from BT, and take the phone. You are then left with no phone but as far as BT is concerned it's been a genuine request, they have supplied the phone and you are then on a monthly contract for £55. When you say you don't want the phone and someone from BT has collected it, you realise you have been scammed and are left trying to explain to BT what has happened to their expensive phone. If this happens to you, keep the phone and refuse to hand it over to the courier, report it to BT and to the police. BT will make arrangements to have the phone returned to them. If you get something you have not requested, be suspicious, if it

seems too good it probably is.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Parenting Teenagers (11-16) Course

We're running a popular DVD based course for 5 Monday evenings, starting 7th November, 7.45-9.30pm at Gaynes School, Brackendale Gardens, Upminster, RM14 3UX. It's for parents of all local secondary school students. There's video clips, discussion groups, fresh coffee & delicious cakes. £5 for the whole course. Info and bookings: 01708 251265 or office.kcu@gmail.com. This is a partnership project between Gaynes School and King's Church, and open to the whole community. Paul Thompson Leader of King's Church, Upminster.

Old Chapel Events

Wednesday 9 November, 10.30am, Tea and Talk - The Decline of Bees

John Robinson discusses the plight and importance of our bee population.

Saturday 19 November, 10am-4pm - Christmas Craft Fair Come and pick up a unique gift or just treat yourself!

Entrance is 50p

To book a place for the above talk please call Gemma Smith on 01708 642919 or email gsmith@mary.havering.sch.uk

NCT

The next Nearly New Sale will be on Saturday 19th November at Marshalls Park School in Romford. Entry is from 10:15 (NCT card entry at 10am) and costs £1. There is free parking on site. Sellers visit our Facebook page or website for online seller registration [Facebook/haveringnct](https://www.facebook.com/haveringnct) www.nct.org.uk/havering All the profits go to the NCT, to help with the amazing work they do supporting new parents.

Scouts' Christmas Fayre

The 8th Squirrels Heath Scout Group Christmas Fayre will be

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held on Saturday 3rd December at Kingsland Hall which is at the rear of The Rainbow Trust Charity Shop, Station Road, Harold Wood. 10am to 1pm with admission 40p (Children Free). Santa's Grotto, Games, Cakes and Sweets and much more.

Air Quality



We are often asked what progress is being made to improve the Borough's Air Quality? Please note the following Havering Council has been working

on several initiatives to improve the Air Quality within the Borough. Over the past couple of years Havering has upgraded its monitoring network from 4 to 38 locations as a result of a successful bid to Transport for London's Mayors Air Quality Fund Scheme. The increased monitoring locations gave the Council a much clearer indication of the air quality within the Borough, allowing the Council

continued on page 11

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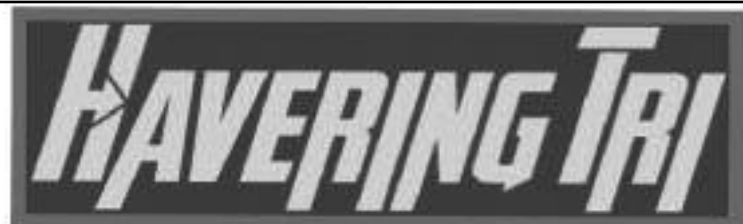
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to closely monitor and review any 'hotspot' locations.

Recently a report was received from Transport for London updating the Council on London Bus Emissions Reduction, which over the period of 2008 - 2013 reduced emissions from the bus fleet in Havering from 137.5 tonnes per year to 101.5 tonnes per year, with a prediction of a continuing reduction till 2030. Further, the Council is continuing to promote 'sustainable travel' options through:

- Improving pedestrian and cyclist access throughout the borough, promoting the use of Electric Vehicles and installing charging points.
- Encouraging the planting of air quality improving vegetation (such as that at the Ludwigshafen Roundabout in Romford).
- Preparing an information pack for businesses to help them reduce their impact on air quality.
- Commissioning a video to raise awareness of air pollution and the part we can all play to improve the quality of the air we breathe.
- Implementing air quality planning conditions on new developments in order to reduce

any detrimental impact they may have on the local air quality. Please let us have your thoughts.
Cllr RON OWER

Shirley Ward Tours

December Thurs 15th, 2016:

ALADDIN New Disney Spectacular Musical straight from Broadway, with special effects, Prince Edward Theatre London 2.30pm Matinee, Mid D/Circle Seats/Coach £65.

January Thurs 12th, 2017:

English National Ballet, London Coliseum: Giselle; Matinee Show £58 Best Dress Circle Seats by Coach.

Short Break: Warners Historic Littlecote House Hotel, Berkshire: **Mon 30th January/Fri 3rd February 2017;** with drinks package: Prices/Leaflet on request.

June 2017: Austria; Sun 4th June To 11th June 2017 : Kirchberg; With drinks package, trips to Salzburg, Zell am See, Mayrhofen with train ride, Innsbruck. Flying to Munich, Half Board Basis and one Tyrolean Dinner. Prices/leaflet on request.

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generally fetch and carry. After a year they go back to Canine Partners' training facility in Sussex for two months of advanced training before they are paired off with a handicapped person.

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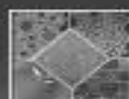
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Women's Stories of Ford Dagenham

The Queen's theatre has launched a project to document and celebrate the lives and stories of women who worked at Ford Dagenham between 1968-1984. If you or any relative, friend or neighbour have a connection with Ford during the period and would like to be part of this please head to the website
<http://www.queens-theatre.co.uk/get-involved/womens-stories-ford-dagenham/>

Indoor Table Top Sale

The last Indoor Table Top Sale at the Coopers' Company & Coborn School for this year, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 3HS will

be held on Sunday 4th December. School supplied tables are £12. Seller supplied tables, no bigger than a 6ft paste table, are £8. Sellers from 7am and must book and pay in advance. Call 07508 135449. Buyers doors open at 9am. Entrance fee is 50p for adults, children are free. Entrance free after 11am. Disabled access. Toilets & refreshments are available.
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First Step Bazaar

First Step are holding their Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 26th November from 12pm to 3.30pm. Their vision is to provide the best possible environment to support each family and to enable their very young children with special needs and/or disabilities to maximise their individual potential. First Step, Tangmere Crescent, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 5PP.

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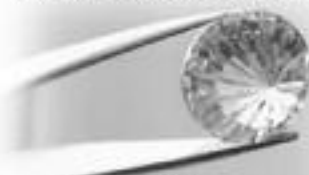
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Quiz Night at All Saints

There will be a quiz at All Saint's Church, the Chase, Cranham on Saturday 26th November at 7.30pm. Tables of 8/10. Cost £6, coffee provided but bring your own snacks. Contact Helene on 01708 225629 to book a table.

Murder Mystery Evening

The Wesley Players present "Corporate Murder" on the 12th November at Trinity Church, Station Road at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Tickets cost £10 each and include a ploughman's supper. Own drinks and glasses, and there will be a raffle. Proceeds to Trinity Church and Little Havens Children's Hospice. Tables of no more than 8, but you do not need to book a whole table. However pre-booking is essential, on either 01708 222189 or 01708 226910.

Rainbow Trust Carol Concert

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carol singing and readings at the Trinity Methodist Church, Romford. Following the service, guests are invited to stay for mulled punch and mince pies. The perfect festive experience in the countdown to Christmas, cost Rainbow Trust Children's Charity offers emotional and practical support to families that have a child with a life threatening or terminal illness. All proceeds from concert will go to Rainbow Trust.

For more information or to book tickets please contact Katherine Brooks on 01372 220013 / katherine.brooks@rainbowtrust.org.uk or visit our Rainbow Trust shop in Harold Wood.

Havering Antique Collectors Club

Our next meeting is Friday 18th November 7.30 for 8.00 with speaker Chris White on Art of London. An interesting look at paintings of London through the eyes of the artists Turner, Constable, Monet, Canaletto and many more. This will be followed by free refreshments and friendly discussion of the topic. New

continued on page 17

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Wednesday Music Evenings

Wednesday 2nd November at 7.30pm Box Office Hits and Turkeys presented by Harry Newman. A programme of music from the British and American theatre featuring a selection of the blockbuster successes as well as a few appalling flops that still managed to produce some well-remembered hit songs.

Wednesday 16th November at 7.30pm The Countryside and Wide Outdoors presented by Alan Tomlin. An evening that will dispel any mid-November gloom with a mix of rural rhapsodies and pastoral pieces together with some bucolic bits & pieces courtesy of Beethoven, Bizet, Borodin, Canteloube, Delius, Smetana, Strauss and Vaughan Williams together with a few melodies from the popular music catalogue.

Wednesday 30th November at 7.30pm The Victory discs of

World War Two presented by Brian Luck. In 1942 the American War Departments issued thousands of 12" shellac discs to US and Allied forces throughout the world. These were known as V-Discs and contained the only American recorded music during much of the war years following a musicians recording ban. Brian will be playing examples of these historic recordings.

Entrance to the Music Evenings is free of charge although we do ask for a nominal contribution to cover interval refreshments. All meetings are held in the Main Meeting Room at Hornchurch Library commencing at 7.30pm and ending at 9.30pm. For further details, call Stephen Raindle 01708 470670 email sraindle@aol.com



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5 Saturday - **Pussycat Lodge Trust Quiz Evening** at North St Hall, North Street, Hornchurch. 7.00 for 7.30pm start. Price £6.00. Tables Of 8-10. Bring your own drinks and nibbles RAFFLE, prizes and new goods. All enquires Jacqui: Jacquelinesduly@outlook.com

8 Tuesday - **NADFAS (Havering)** meet at The New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QH. Coffee from 10.00 am. They welcome Mrs Caroline Holmes with a talk on 'Flowers of Impressionist Youth - WW1 and their Remembrance'. Lecture 10.45 am. Visitors welcome at £8. For further information on the Society, future lectures and visits can be found at www.haveringdfas.org.uk.

8 Tuesday - **Upminster & District Horticultural Society** have Mike Sullivan - Starting with Alpines. Mike is a member of the Alpine Garden Society, he will tell us about the conditions needed to successfully grow these group of plants. 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 are very welcome for a fee of £2.00. For further information on Upminster Horticultural Society see our website www.upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk or info@upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk

12 Saturday - **Havering Singers Event - Autumn Concert - Beethoven Mass in C & Haydn Harmoniemesse** at St Peter's Church Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood, 7.30 pm. Ticket prices £13 Adults or £13

if bought in Advance / £5 Children aged 5-17 / Sponsor Patrons receive a £1 Discount on Advertised Prices.

14 Monday - **Havering Essex Wildlife Trust** have a talk on A Year in the Job and Future Plans" with Andrew Impy, the Essex Wildlife Trust CEO. Meetings are held on the 1st floor meeting room in Hornchurch Library 8 pm to 9.45 pm. Donation of £2.50 to help cover hall hire, includes tea, coffee and biscuits. Contact Secretary Joy Emerson on 01708 440297.

15 Tuesday - **Cranham Engayne W.I.** welcomes new members and visitors. Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2 pm until 4 pm at the Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens, Cranham, RM14 1SR. Why not come along and join in the fun.

16 Wednesday - **Upminster Floral Art Society** have National Demonstrator - Irene Bowkett with her dem. Called "A Christmas Cracker". New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.45 start. Raffle and Refreshments. Please call Margaret on 01708 471977.

17 Thursday - **Upminster Wine & Social Club.** We are a fun group with an interest in wine appreciation and enjoying many social events. We hold meetings every third Thursday of the month with a variety of speakers and a wine tasting. Meetings are held in the Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane, Cranham; start 8pm. For more information contact Maureen Jasper on 01708 223956, or simply come along on the night.

18 Friday - **Havering Antique Collectors Club** meet at the Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood. Speaker

continued on page 19

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Mr C White on 'Art of London'. 7.30 pm for 8 pm start. £4 guests. Contact Chairman Mrs Chris Lovett on 01708 221851 for further information.

- 23 Wednesday - **Upminster Park Townswomen's Guild** are a friendly group of Ladies enjoying a chat over tea/biscuits, listening to a good speaker or entertainer, going on outings/ theatre trips and promoting friendship. We meet at Derham Hall, St Lawrence's Church, Upminster on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 1.45 pm - 4 pm. For more information contact Deborah Pryor 01708 226127 or Ann Monk 01708 226305 or simply come along.
- 26 Saturday - **Hornchurch and Upminster Sugar Craft** demonstration on "Fun Modelling and Santas Grotto" by Linda Garnham. 12 noon - 3.30 pm at Gwillcoo, Brookdale Avenue, Upminster. Entry £12 by ticket only from Joy Rasbash on 01708 767145, includes a Christmas Lunch.
- 26 Saturday - **Hornchurch Festive Craft & Gift Fair.** In aid of the Essex Air Ambulance (over £1500 raised last year). 10am-4pm at the Hornchurch Sports Centre. Admission £1 adults, children free.
- 28 Monday - **Romford & District Historical Society** will have Guest Speaker on 'History of Rainham Marshes - Rife Range to RSPB'. Venue is at myplace, 343 Dagnam Park Drive, Harold Hill, Romford, RM3 9EN. Access from 7.30 pm Meeting 8 pm to 9.30 pm.
- 28 Monday **Little Haven Quiz Night** at The Crumpled Horn, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, 7.30 pm for 8 pm start. Tables of 8 max at a cost of £6 each and to include a superior Ploughmans supper. Raising cash for Little Havens Hospice For any further enquiries and bookings ring Bob Blunden on 01708 226154.
- 28 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, 1.30 - 3.00 pm. This month we have a **Christmas Gathering with Councillor John Mylod.** Light refreshments are served. New members, family and carers are always welcome; a voluntary donation of £3 is appreciated. Please contact Joyce 01708 226696 or Elaine 01708 509127 for more details.

DECEMBER

- 3 Saturday - **The Havering Branch of the East of London Family History Society** hold meetings at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster RM14 2SJ doors open at 1pm meeting starts at 2pm. This month the talk is 'Barking Abbey and its connection with Ingatstone Hall with Margaret Mills. The Internet & Technology Group meet at the same venue 11am - 1pm where John Reynolds will tell you all "Don't Panic". Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both.
- 6 Tuesday - **Oglethorpe Women's Institute** have their Christmas Celebration. **MEMBERS ONLY.** Our meetings are held at Cranham Social Hall, 103 Front Lane, RM14 1XL at 7.45 pm.
- 7 Wednesday - **Harold Wood Evening W.I** Christmas Social, tickets will apply. We meet on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Visitors are always welcome. We request a suggested donation of £2.50 towards running costs and refreshments. For further details please call Jeanne on 0787 5670419. We meet at the War Memorial Hall in Gubbins Lane, 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm.

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Jobbers Rest

A Planning Application has been received by the Council for refurbishment works to convert the former Jobbers Rest Pub, St Mary's Lane, into a Gastro Pub/Restaurant as part of Raymond Blanc's The White Brasserie Company chain of premises.

Road Signs

Following on from the article in last month's *Bulletin* there have been further incidents of lorries getting trapped under Wantz Bridge, St. Mary's Lane, or drivers realising too late that they could not get under it, and trying to turn around in the narrow road - The Chase - causing mayhem for the residents. I have arranged for extra signage to be put up advising drivers of the height at the bridge and also ensuring that the height is given in both feet, inches and metric. The actual warning signs on the bridge have also been renewed.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Cycle Stands

The green cycle stands in Station Road - Upminster are well used.

With this in mind, funding by Transport for London will provide a further two stands, one on each side of the road will be erected by the Council.

Appeal Success

I am very pleased to say that the Planning Inspector has dismissed the appeals for the building of a third floor on top of the two blocks of flats, known locally as Byron Mansions, Corbets Tey Road. The Inspector considered that overall the harm to the appearance of the existing blocks was unacceptable, despite the change of design proposed. This has been on ongoing issue and the first plans were rejected by council officers. The second set of plans were recommended for approval by officers, but I called the applications in and following a strong representation at committee, including from residents, councillors voted unanimously to reject the application. The applicant, having appealed, now has had this rejected. It is always possible that a further application could be submitted but given the Inspector's strong rejection, this is unlikely. The result is a great relief to residents in these blocks.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Corbets Tey Toilets

Please note the following update regarding the toilets which are well-used. The drains have been getting blocked and after investigation, it was discovered that the roots of the large bay trees behind the toilets were penetrating the drains and these had to be removed, and the drains renewed - the works have been completed, and they should now be working normally. We will continue to monitor.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Christmas Fair

All are welcome to our Christmas Fair on Saturday, 26th November 2016. 12 noon to 3pm. Stalls with cakes, decorations, tombola, light lunches and much more. St. Mary Magdalene, Church Lane, North Ockendon. RM14 3QH.

Lunchtime Recitals

Thursday Lunchtime Recitals at St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster 1.05pm-1.50pm. Free admission - retiring collection.

- 3rd Nov - Andrew Cantrill, organ

- 10th Nov - Icaria duo, flute and harp
- 17th Nov - Richard Brasier, organ
- 24th Nov - Tom Wraith and Freddie Brown, cello and piano

Modern Sequence Dance

Places are available in an absolute beginners Modern Sequence Dance class at Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens every Friday 10.30am - 12noon. A Sequence dance class is also available on Friday afternoons 1pm - 2:30pm. Patient, qualified teacher. Learn to dance in a happy and friendly atmosphere. The cost is £4.00 per person. Email shaun22@btinternet.com or phone 07825398501 for more details.

Care Home for Upminster

Carebase, a company who have a number of care homes in the UK are in pre-application talks with the council on a 70 bed Residential Care Home together with a 32 bed Brain Injury home on the vacant site in St. Mary's Lane next to Coopers School playing fields. As discussions progress we will keep you informed.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE



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(07863 116029)
cllrclarencebarrett@yahoo.co.uk
www.ucra.co.uk

Father Christmas at Roomes

Father Christmas will be arriving at Roomes Fashion & Home store (41-49 Station Road, Upminster RM14 2SX) at 1pm on Saturday 19th November.

DIARY

NOVEMBER

- 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

DECEMBER

- 7 Wednesday **Upminster Ward Meeting** at St Joseph's Social Centre at 7.30 pm
- 15 Thursday **Cranham Ward Meeting** at Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens at 7.15 pm
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