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UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Budget 2019/20 - Update



Last month we highlighted some of the budget options put forward by the conservative cabinet to balance the 2019/20 budget. These included the removal of free 30-minute parking in Upminster, Hornchurch and Elm Park, increase parking charges from £1.50 for two hours to £2 for one hour, £1.50 to park on a Sunday, making people on certain benefits pay more council tax and significant budget

reductions to the Havering Music School. The excuse given for increasing the parking charges is to fund road repairs, but the council parking account made a £723,000 surplus last year, outstripping the £573,000 surplus it made in the previous year! While obvious to many of us, the correlation between reasonable parking charges and the survival of our High Streets is a concept totally lost on the conservative members of the council.

Furthermore, it has since emerged that, while these draconian measures are being put forward, the conservative cabinet want to spend £160,000 on providing 'support' to cabinet members who already receive very generous allowances.

At the time of writing, the parking proposals are subject to consultation while the decision on agreeing the overall budget and council tax won't be made until 27th February. Please see our website (ucra.co.uk) for regular updates and we urge you to take part in any consultations.

There is no doubt that plugging a £37.8m budget gap requires tough decisions, but it also requires decisions which are based on collective priorities, sustainability and common sense. We shall continue to oppose the harmful aspects of the budget proposals put forward and work on behalf of the community to present a viable and sensible alternative.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Meet Your Councillors

Cranham

Residents are invited to drop in to Café 4 You (Front Lane, beneath the Cranham Social Centre) on February 21st where at least one of us will be there to pick up on any of your concerns or ideas over a cup of tea. Simply drop in between 11am and 12 noon and we will be pleased to see you. If you have any concerns in the meantime, please contact any of us. Contact details are on page 22.

Cllrs BARRETT, FORD & TYLER

Upminster

We will be at Costa Coffees Eastern side of Station Road on 18th February 10 am to 11 am to hear any thoughts or concerns you have. Come and have a cuppa. If you have any questions in the meantime our contact details are on page 22. Please ensure you give your contact details if you are emailing us...Many thanks.

Cllrs LINDA HAWTHORN, RON OWER &
CHRIS WILKINS

Association AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be on Monday 25th February, 7.45pm at the Commemoration Hall, Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster.

Following the AGM Mark Hall, the Managing Director of First Step, will give a presentation on their work locally.

First Step was set up in 1988 in response from a plea from some parents of young children with special needs and/or disabilities. They currently work with over 100 children and their families offering educational support, information and encouragement.

All welcome. This promises to be a fascinating and informative presentation.

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Coopers School Cycle Ideas

We recently visited Coopers' Company and Coborn School where pupils gave us a presentation covering alternatives that could make the journey safer for the pupils who cycle to the school. We were very impressed by the thoughts shown by the pupils, who not only gave the presentation, but who had compiled and supplied information boards for our viewing. At present only 4 per cent of the pupils cycle, but if the routes were safer we were told that this would raise by another 13 per cent.

Safety measures from the children included road closures, such as a no right hand turn from St Mary's Lane into Howard Road or left hand turn from St Mary's Lane into Argyle Gardens. As Councillors we need to look at things holistically and consider ideas that could well just have a knock on effect on other roads! The school are considering their own consultation with residents in the surrounding area near the school and you may receive questionnaires in relation to this matter. We felt you should be aware of their ideas. If they decide to consult local residents the Council would have to take into account your views and we will also

be invited to comment.

Cllrs LINDA HAWTHORN, CHRIS WILKINS

Santa's Sleigh Brings Joy

In times of Brexit, 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.

This was its 43rd year and people's generosity continues to be amazing. A record amount of just over £7800, was collected for local good causes such as First Step, St Francis Hospice, Dycourt Schools' and Riding for the Disabled. Every night is special but our reception around Upminster Park Estate on Christmas Eve was amazing. Lots of children and with adult parties en route supplying mulled wine, mince pies, sausage rolls and much more, Santa and his helpers went merrily on their way dispensing good cheer.

Many, many thanks for all your help and support once again. It makes a real difference to our local charities.

Colin Coe
Havering East Rotary Club

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Our Trees

Locally we are very proud of our trees and shrub lined roads. We get lots of comments from residents and visitors on how nice the area looks with the trees.

We also regularly ask the Council to prune the trees and cut down any shrubs that are getting over grown etc.

Springfield Gardens always comes to mind when the trees are flowering which looks great. We have been very busy liaising with the Council on getting new trees planted, especially where a dead or diseased tree is cut down and taken away.

In fact over the last few years we have had a record number of trees planted more than elsewhere in the Borough!

My colleagues Ron Ower and Chris Wilkins and I were not at all pleased to see and receive complaints that four established trees in Park Drive were cut down. On a number of occasions we, together with any residents, have been advised by the Council where they plan to take away a dead or diseased tree, sadly this did not happen with the four trees in Park Drive and I took this up with the Council pointing out our deep concern.

I would also like to point out that the Government has announced "Councils who wish to chop down trees will be forced to consult residents beforehand and also record the number of trees felled and replanted". There was widespread opposition and concern in Sheffield where locals felt the Council were turning the streets into a concrete jungle. We like our trees and we will be keeping a very close eye on this locally.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Glass Recycling

The way glass is recycled in Havering has now changed. You no longer need to separate out the different colours by dropping them into specific bins. You can use any bin to deposit glass recycling.

This decision has been made by the contractor ELWA, who have confirmed the recycling process will not be affected as a consequence.

All signage is being updated.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

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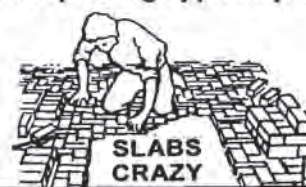
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Dury Falls 20mph Zone Rejected

The petition signed by many Dury Falls residents requesting a 20mph zone on the estate was presented to the Council last year. The petition set out a number of benefits that such a scheme would deliver, for example:

- A reduction in speed levels will make for a safer environment for residents and road users alike
- A 20mph zone will improve the character of the area and quality of life of all residents
- It will also contribute towards a cleaner environment by reducing levels of noise and air pollution

However the conservative administration, in their 'wisdom', have rejected the call, stating that the benefits are unclear and no more schemes will be progressed - this is despite the existence of 37 other 20mph zones across the borough.

We can assure residents that we shall continue to lobby for this and appreciate the concerns expressed by so many of you.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Peter Coe

Local businessman and charity fundraiser Peter Coe has sadly passed away aged 92.

For 42 years, along with his son Colin, Peter owned and ran Havering Lighting in Billet Lane, Hornchurch until they both retired in 2014.



Picture - Peter Coe (Middle). Three generations at Havering Lighting. Peter, son Colin and grandson Andrew.

As an active member of Romford Lions he organised Boxing Nights, Donkey Derbies and Old Tyme Musicals raising over £250,000 which helped local projects such as St Francis Hospice, Harold Wood Hospital Cataract Unit, the Oldchurch Hospital scanner and First Step.

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LU Depot Works - Update

As residents may be aware, works to the Upminster LU Depot in Front Lane have been ongoing for several years. While the project is still due to finish in early 2020, TfL have advised of the following works to be carried out over 2019:

- Extending the two track maintenance roads by 64 metres
- Upgrading all electrical and mechanical equipment including roller doors
- Deepening the pit in one depot house
- New platforms and lighting in the cleaning shed
- New pipework and systems to aid trains screen wash facilities

If you have any queries or complaints please contact TfL at:
Phone: 0343 222 1234 (24 hours)
Online: TfL.gov.uk/contact
Write: TfL Customer Services, 4th Floor, 14 Pier Walk, London, SE10 0ES.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Havering Works

The London Borough of Havering are currently promoting their 'Havering Works' scheme, an employment and skills service provided by the Council that many people may not have heard of. The scheme offers free support for Havering residents looking to get back to work or explore future career opportunities. Their services include:

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- Information on specialist agencies that offer additional support.
- Matching transferable skills and experience to job vacancies.
- Job search support (CV review, help with job applications and interview preparation).
- Support once you are in work.

For more information visit www.havering.gov.uk and search 'Havering Works', e-mail their team at works@havering.gov.uk or phone 01708 432567.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

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I am now in my 50th year involved with local government affairs, shortly before Christmas I reflected where this all began and why.

I had always been very interested in politics being active at school in Newham with the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and various left wing groups. This all came to a head in 1968 when London saw two huge Anti Vietnam war demonstrations I attended both as did a former Havering Mayor! I remember coming to Havering especially to gain support predominantly in Romford and Harold Hill. However, it was in 1969 when I really got involved in community affairs in Forest Gate when Newham Council were regenerating parts of the area. Local residents were experiencing a host of problems. I went and spoke to the Newham Ratepayers Association, they had been active firstly in East Ham from the late 1950s and then in Newham. In fact after the 1968 elections they had 21 councillors and were for many years the only opposition to Labour in Newham. So in 1969 I formed an RA in Forest Gate, not the easiest of jobs as Labour felt they had a right to represent the area. This led to me standing for Council in 1971 in Forest Gate, a bye election in Custom House & Silvertown in 1972 and in the Newham North East constituency I stood for the Greater London Council. Sadly for me, Labour won and as you know in the first past the post system there are no prizes for coming second. However, the experience I gained was invaluable and really helped me when I came to Havering.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT


I moved to Cranham in 1973 and was elected for our Association representing Cranham in 1978 to 1990 when I stood down due to work commitments and returned to Council again for the Association in 2010 for Upminster Ward, I was delighted to be re elected again last May! I strongly believe that "party politics" has no place in local affairs. Without any doubt all local residents have benefited from having an active local Residents Association and councillors who actually live locally. The Upminster & Cranham Residents Association goes on from strength to strength!

Cllr RON OWER

Watch out for Fake Tax Refunds

With self-assessment tax returns due by 31st January, watch out for a surge in emails, texts or phone calls from scammers pretending to be from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) office advising you that a refund is due (usually a very precise amount like £211.13). All they need is your personal/payment information and, equipped with this information, the scammers will set about emptying your bank account. Please be assured that HMRC will never ask for personal/payment information by text or email, if you are due a refund you will receive a letter. Before deleting, suspicious emails can be forwarded to the HMRC's phishing team at phishing@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT



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To find out more contact Pam on 07500 724169

Email heathandhaveringhope@gmail.com

Write to: Pam Addis, Heath and Havering HOPE Group Coordinator, Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster, RM14 2UD

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Abberton Reservoir & Maldon

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(Abberton Reservoir have requested a voluntary donation of £2.00 per person towards their conservation work and we have incorporated this amount along with the cost of your tea & biscuits in the ticket price which is just £19.50 per person)

continued on page 7

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We have a few remaining tickets for the **Thriplow Daffodil Festival on Sunday 24th March**

Every year Thriplow and its surrounding communities work hard to pull off one of the best loved charity events in Cambridgeshire. Visitors can walk the car-free village to look at the famous daffodil displays, visit the attractions, open gardens and potter the stalls & crafts. Refreshments are served in the tea rooms with homemade cakes and sandwiches or delicious hot street food can be eaten while listening to live music. Step back in time and experience the warm and friendly atmosphere of village life as it used to be.

(Please note that this event takes place in all weather condition and refunds cannot be given unless the organiser's cancel the event).

Tickets are available at £22.50 each including return coach and entrance to the event. Coach departing Upminster at 10am after usual pick ups.

Contact details for bookings and information:

Joan Carroll on 07789 956399
joancarroll66@gmail.com
Gina Savill-Turner on 07958 006503
or 01708 228270 email gina.savill-turner@email.com

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Jump the Q

Queens Theatre shows for this year. From the 22nd February to the 9th March "Kiss Me Quickstep". A star-studded warm hearted ballroom drama. From the 14th March to the 30th March "In Basildon". A juicy slice of Essex family life and from the 27th April to the 18th May



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Hornchurch Football Club

Please note following home games and kick off times for the club at The Stadium, Bridge Avenue. Tuesday 5th 7.45pm home to Wingate & Finchley. Saturday 16th this month 3pm Enfield Town. Saturday 2nd March 3pm Margate. The Club has an excellent bar, go along and support your local team. <https://www.afchornchurch.com>

Hornchurch and Upminster Sea Cadet Unit

The only Sea Cadet Unit in Havering. We believe that through recreational water sports with a Royal Navy ethos young people can thrive and are better equipped to cope with life and modern society. As a Charity, any fund raising is

reinvested, for cadets to train, participate in activities and for the general running of our unit. We are fund raising for a new minibus, this enables our cadets to attend competitions, activities and support community events. Please visit our Just Giving page to show your support for our unit: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/hornandupseacadets>

We are always on the look out for new cadets or adult volunteers; further information can be found at www.sea-cadets.org

Tortoise Care

Do you have a tortoise in hibernation? Now is the time to be checking carefully on their progress. It is important that if there are any signs of tortoise activity or if it has urinated or defaecated the tortoise should be brought out of hibernation and kept warm. This can be achieved by using heat lamp and bathing them in warm water daily until they are eating. Under no circumstances should a tortoise that has become active be allowed to re-enter hibernation as it is likely not to have enough reserves to wake a second time. If you have any concerns about how to keep your tortoise healthy at this critical time of the year please telephone Lawton and Stoakes 01708 384444 for advice.

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Golf Day

Steve Davis is holding a Family and Friends Golf Day on Sunday 12th May at Stock Brook Golf Club in aid of local Saint Francis Hospice. Pairs Texas Scramble Tournament £250 per 2 ball. Includes breakfast roll on arrival, hospitality bag, 18 holes of golf, half way house refreshments, 3 course meal and evening presentation by Mr Steve Davis. A day for family, friends and colleagues with competition and prizes throughout. Contact maryannedonovan@sfn.org.uk or 01708771433 for bookings.

Wednesday Music Evenings

Wednesday 13th February
NATIONAL MUSICAL IDENTITY
presented by Stephen Raindle.

National identity of a country can often be associated with a certain piece or pieces of music or maybe a composer who captured the soul of a nation. This programme will feature music identified with many such countries including the USA, Finland, Sweden, Norway as well as the home nations.

Wednesday 27th February
CLASSICS IN THE CINEMA
presented by Alan Tomlin.
Classical music used in films

actually does bring the music to a wider and appreciative audience and at the same time often greatly enhances the mood and action of the films themselves. Alan will doubtless have much music to choose from and it will be a programme to suit all tastes. Music played will be from recordings reproduced on high quality sound equipment. All programmes take place in the 1st Floor Meeting Room, Hornchurch Library, North Street and commence at 7.30pm ending by 9.30pm. Admission is free but a small donation is requested to cover interval refreshments. No need to book a seat - just turn up. Should you require more information contact Stephen Raindle 01708 470670 or email sraindle@aol.com.

Christmas Lights Thank you

On behalf of all of us at 6 Herbert Road, Hornchurch. We would like to say a big thank you to everyone for their generous contributions for the Great Ormond Street Hospital Charity and wish everyone a Happy New year. Our Christmas lights has now become a family Christmas tradition that my husband and I put up each year with

the help of the children. We hope you liked our Christmas lights this year and hope it becomes one of your traditions to visit us each year. This is the eighth year we have raised money for Great Ormond Street with our lights and with your kind contributions this year we have been able to raise a massive £428 from the local residents for the charity.

Karen Dobbins

Parking Tickets

Most people are clear about parking tickets and where they should not park, but one more obscure rule is how near to the kerb you need to park. If you park more than 50 cms (19.68 inches) from the kerb edge then you can be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice from the Councils traffic wardens. Quite a number of tickets have been issued for this offence.

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using the Dartford Crossing is <https://www.gov.uk/pay-dartford-crossing-charge>.

Vanilla Bake Club

Vanilla Bake Club meets up again on 25 February 2019 at the Old Chapel, when our regulars will be baking using unusual ingredients! Who knows how this one will turn out but it will be fun! As usual the theme is not compulsory so don't let it put you off coming. If you are not part of the unusual ingredient gang, just bake your favourite recipe. If you haven't been to one of our events before, this is how it works: we all bake something, sweet or savoury, bring it along to share with our members. There's plenty of tea, coffee and chat with a friendly crowd of regulars and you may pick up a baking tip or recipe or two. At the end of the evening there is always lots of goodies to take home if you haven't managed to try everything. There's no joining fee or membership but we charge £5 per session to cover unlimited tea and coffee and hall hire. How better to spend a Monday evening? For more information call Jennifer on 07940828154, email vanillabakeclubupm@gmail.com, or visit our Facebook page. Future dates for your diary are 1 April, 13 May and 24 June 2019.

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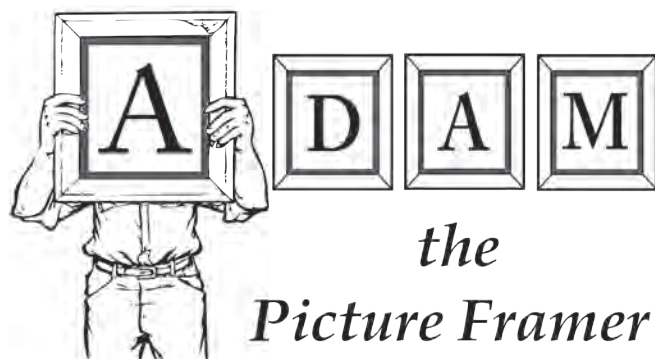


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Spring Concert

The Havering Concert Orchestra (HCO) is pleased to announce its spring concert 'A Journey to Fantastical Places'. Our journey starts by taking us to Rome. The date is 1532, and it's carnival time. Benvenuto Cellini is about to cast the famous statue of Perseus commissioned by the Pope, but nothing is easy. Then we travel to Vienna in 1816 where the 19-year old Franz Schubert has just finished his lively, youthful and sweet 5th Symphony. We continue our journey to the 'Paradise Garden' of Frederick Delius but, in this case, it is an inn where two star-crossed lovers meet before they take their own lives. The end of our journey is in a garden full of stone statues. It's where the magical realm of Kostchei the Immortal rules, transforming people into stone. Our hero, Prince Ivan, captures the fantastical Firebird, a powerful female spirit bird with magical feathers that provide beauty and protection. After granting her freedom, she gives him one of her magic feathers. This feather offers our hero the lifeline he needs to rescue the Princesses from the evil Kostchei and to recall the Firebird

to return the statues to life. Of course, Ivan marries one of the Princesses. For this concert, we will have two conductors, as it is the final part of our recruitment process looking to appoint a long-term conductor. The concert takes place at 3:00 pm on Sunday 24 March 2019 at the New Windmill Hall, Upminster. Advance tickets are now available online via www.hcweb.co.uk at £8 or £10 on the door. <https://www.hcweb.co.uk> haveringconcertorchestra@gmail.com

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May we remind you that where these bays are in "controlled parking areas" where vehicles are banned as an example 8 am to 9.30 am etc.

Parking in these bays are still the subject of the ban.

The Council will and do issue parking tickets. Please feel free to pass this information on to your friends or relatives who may not know the local regulations.

Parking Problems

With the area having a huge amount of private vehicles, which is increasing all the time, please note the following Council numbers if you have your drive blocked, etc.

Office Hours 01708 432 787,
Out of Office Hours 07946 738 495.

Gentle Pilates for Seniors

Thursdays 11.50am at Upminster Pilates Studio, off Argyle Gardens (near Coopers School). For very mobile Seniors or anyone who would like a very gentle Pilates class. Small group for individual attention. Improve joint mobility, bone strength, core strength, balance, co-ordination and posture.

Please note that each participant must be able to lie on a mat on the floor for many of the exercises and get back up with only a chair for assistance. Classes booked per block, spaces are limited, pre-booking essential, call Charlene on 07411 826721.

We also offer Beginner Courses, Improver/Intermediate Classes, Post Natal, Men Only Classes, 1:1 sessions, Post Injury/Surgery Rehabilitation, Sports/Remedial Massage. Reformer Pilates coming from Easter. For further information please visit www.upminstersportsmassage.co.uk

Thames chase – 'Give what you are good at!'

With a very busy year ahead, the Thames Chase Trust Board of

Trustees is looking for a new Chair to lead the Trust in its management of the Community Forest Project. Having a strong interest and understanding of the natural environment and local landscape management is essential along with an awareness of the charity world and working with volunteers as well as employed staff. Anyone taking on this role will need to have both time and knowledge of working with a wide range of partners including local and national government. The Community Forest has a strong history from the time it was established in 1990 in regaining our green environment around this part of east London and the small board of trustees needs to gain both physical and financial support to continue its work. If you value the number of green spaces that are growing around us and the increasing amount of wildlife they bring please help the challenges ahead either in this role or as a volunteer. Please contact mary.wright@thameschase.org.uk if you would like more information.

Thames Chase events

Friday 8th February – Quiz Night at the Old Chapel, Upminster. Come and have fun whilst fundraising for the Community Forest. Arrive at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Tables of eight available and prizes to be won. Bring your own refreshments. £5 per person. Booking essential at the

Forest Centre.

Friday 15th February 2.20-4.30pm – Cream tea with light music to celebrate Valentines Day. £9 per person (booking essential)

Sunday 17th February 10am-2pm – Sunday Market and children's Welly Hunt.

19th, 20th, 21st February 10.30am-12.30pm – children's half term holiday activities on the theme 'Reduce, reuse, recycle'.

For more information visit our website www.thameschase.org.uk or from the Visitor Centre 01708 642970.

Magic Night

St Laurence Church Building Improvement Fundraising Committee are holding an 'Evening of Magic' presented by the Ilford Magic Society in the Main Hall, St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road on Saturday 9th February 2019.

Tickets are £12.50, Buffet food and soft drinks included in the price. Doors open at 6.45pm with the show starting at 7.30pm and concluding around 10.15pm. Limited ticket allocation, we are able to book tables of up to 10 people.

Please contact St Laurence Parish Office to purchase tickets: 01708 220696 or parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

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A Big Thank You

On behalf of Livingstone Cub Pack - 3rd Upminster Scout Group we would like to thank the commuters at Upminster station on the evening of Tuesday 11th December 2018 for their generosity. You kindly donated over £640 during the 90 minutes the Cubs were singing Carols - thank you. With your support we have been able to send money to both Great Ormond Street Hospital Children Charity and UNICEF.

Shirley Ward Tours

2019 Trips

April, 24th Wednesday, Matilda, the Musical. Easter Holidays (Havering Schools), good Stall Seats, 2pm Matinee Show by Coach; Adults £55; Child £45; Brilliant ticket prices, Last Few Seats Left!

May 29th Wednesday, Royal Albert Hall, Abbaphonic Concert by Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. 3pm; Friendship Matinee; £7 (shorter concert); make your own way. Good Stall Seats.

June 12th Wednesday, New Musical "9 to 5" at Savoy Theatre. Matinee, by coach; stars Brian Conley, Louise Redknapp, Bonnie Langford: Good D/ Circle Seats. £60 or £72 with 2 course meal in Strand (Wildwoods).

July 3rd Wednesday, Hertford Canal Cruise. 2.5 hr Cruise, Ware

to Hertford includes 2 course Lunch at Waterside Inn before boarding boat, with free time in Hertford before return journey by Coach: £60 inclusive.

July 24th Wednesday, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat at London Palladium. Matinee Show by coach; Upper Circle Seats; £48 Child; £52 Adult. (School Holiday Treat!)

Please call Shirley Ward 01708 227884 or e mail shirley@shirleytours.co.uk to Book all trips.

Pensioner Xmas Bonus Petition

A petition to increase the pensioners Xmas Bonus has attracted almost 1,200 signatures. In 1972 the Christmas bonus was introduced at a respectable £10, enough for a good Xmas family dinner. 46 years on and it is still £10, enough for half a chicken, a few potatoes and a splash of gravy. If the bonus were index linked to inflation, it would be worth an equally respectable £128 today.

The festive generosity of 1972 has now become something of a seasonal oddity that many people, including pensioners, are probably totally unaware of. The petition, created by our own Cllr Clarence Barrett, seeks to bring the bonus into the 21st Century, and with well over a thousand signatures, the response has been

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In terms of outcomes, at best the payment for 2019 should be increased to a more meaningful £25 and linked to inflation. At the least, the bonus could be wrapped up into general pension payments where it would, at least, benefit from future inflationary increases.

The petition can be viewed and signed at <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/234288>

countryside and do something wonderful for a great cause. Join us for a fully supported ride on: Sunday 12th May 2019 <http://pedal4patients.org.uk/>

WEA-Art Appreciation

The WEA is the largest voluntary sector provider of adult education. Please note they are currently running at Fairkytes Art Centre, 51 Billet Lane, Hornchurch RM11 1AX an Art -Appreciation: Art and Music Studies Course with Andrew Rothwell. Exploring exhibitions and anniversaries of prominent composers and visual artists.

One course started last month and a further course starts on the 23rd April 10am to noon. 7 sessions £60.20 For further details please contact Gill Blake on 01708 227512 or email gill.blake51@gmail.com

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LOCAL FUTURE EVENTS FEBRUARY

Hornchurch & Upminster Rotary Club, every Thursday 12.30 for 1pm, The Railway Hotel, Station Road Hornchurch Tel: 01708 250855.

8 Friday - **RSPB Havering** - Indoor Meeting. A relaxed fun evening where our members show their own photographs. For those wishing to take part, contact Alan Shearman in

plenty of time to plan the evening. Contact alanshearman@hotmail.co.uk. Meeting Room at Hornchurch Library, 44 North Street, RM11 1TB. Time: 7.30 pm - 9.45 pm. Price: £3.00 per person. Telephone: 01708 434903. E-mail: rspb.havering@gmail.com

8 Friday - **Scottish Country Dancing**, every Fridays at St Laurence Church Minor Hall RM14 2BB. 10.00 to 11.45 am. Beginners welcome at both groups. Further details from Fiona 07976 438950

10 Sunday - **OASIS** - A 'disability-friendly' meeting, 3.00 to 4.30 pm at Cranham Baptist Church, Severn Drive. Oasis meetings are for adults with disabilities and their carers. All our meetings are accessible, friendly and informal. Come and start the New Year with us! Contact the Oasis Team on 01708 223551 or 07714 853545.

11 Monday - **Havering Branch Essex Wildlife Trust AGM** followed by a guest speaker. Meetings are held in the 1st floor meeting room in Hornchurch Library from 8.00 pm to 9.45 pm. Donation of £3 to help cover hall hire, this includes tea, coffee and biscuits. For more information contact the Secretary Joy Emerson on 01708 440297.

12 Tuesday - **Upminster and District Horticultural Society**, AGM then Propagation: New Plants for Free by Tom Cole. The lectures are held in the New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster from at 7.45pm until 9.45pm. Entrance is

free to members and is £2 for non-members. For more information visit www.upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk

13 Wednesday - **The Front Lane Community Association Tea Dance** at Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane, Cranham, RM14 1XN on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Doors open 2.15 p.m. Come along and make new friends, whilst dancing to music by 'John'. £3.50 inc refreshments. Pay on the door. Further details contact Val on 01708 224166.

13 Wednesday - **Nelmes Women's Institute** meet on the 2nd Wednesday of every month and welcome new members of all ages. Meetings are held at Nelmes United Reformed Church Hall (corner of Nelmes Road and Burntwood Avenue, Hornchurch, RM11 3JA). Meetings start at 2 pm promptly. Please contact Ruth McDougall on 01708 448431 or Ruth.wellwisher@gmail.com for further details.

13 Wednesday - **Havering U3A** A walk across Africa by Fran Sandham. Havering U3A meets at 2:30pm on the second Wednesday of the month at St. Michael's Church Hall, Main Road, Gidea Park, Romford. www.u3asites.org.uk/havering

14 Thursday - **Upminster and Cranham W.I.** are looking for new members. We meet in the St. Laurence Hall (next to the Library) in Upminster on the second Thursday in the month. Doors open at 1.30 pm for a 2 pm start till 4 pm. We have

talks on a wide range of subjects. For more information please contact President Margaret Reynolds on 01708 471977.

18 Monday - **Diabetes UK - Havering Group** Meetings are held at North Street Halls, 24 North Street, Hornchurch - Opposite Iceland, RM11 1QX. Normally on the third Monday of each month (except for August and January) at 8PM. Contact our secretary, Ann on 01708 935779, for more details.

19 Tuesday - **Upminster U3A** Tony Earle on London Transport. New Windmill Hall in Upminster. Doors open at 12.30pm for a 1pm start. For further information about membership and current interest groups, come along to a meeting for free or check out our website www.u3asites.org.uk/upminster

19 Tuesday - **Cranham Engayne W.I.** welcomes new members and visitors. Meetings held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2 pm to 4 pm at the Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens.

20 Wednesday - **Upminster Floral Art Society**. Doors open at 7pm and refreshments are available. Held on the third Wednesday of every month (except January). Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster. Cost: £7 visitors. Free for members. Contact: Margaret 01708 471977

21 Thursday - **Upminster Wine and Social Club** meet on the third Thursday of the month at 8 pm in the Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane,

continued on page 19



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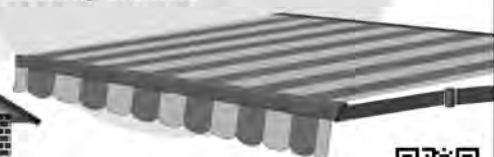
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wine tasting. For more information
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223956, or simply come along on the
night. You will be most welcome.

**22 Friday - Havering Antique and
Collectors Club** meet at the
Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins
Lane, Harold Wood on the third
Friday of the month. Starting at 7.30
pm. Guests £4. For further details
please call our Chairman Mrs Chris
Lovett 07947 367258.

22 Friday - Single Over Sixty lunch,
last Friday of every month 12.30 for
1pm, All Saints Church, The Chase
Upminster Tel: 01708 228308.

**23 Saturday - RSPB Havering - Coach
trip,** RSPB Frampton Marsh,
Lincolnshire. A major new extension
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Hughes Tel: 01708 250585 E-mail:
mikeboy15@gmail.com.

**27 Wednesday - Upminster Park
Towns Womens Guild** meet on
the fourth Wednesday of every
month at 2 pm to 4 pm in Derham
Hall (behind Upminster Library),
Upminster. Afternoon tea, talks and
outings amongst a friendly group of
ladies, all most welcome. For more
information contact Deborah Pryor
on 01708 226127 or Ann Monk on
01708 226305 or simply come along.

**27 Wednesday - Upminster and
District Probus Club** meet at
The Cranleigh, 84 Station Road,
Hornchurch, RM12 6LX on the
last Wednesday of the month. Ann
Hardy will be talking on "Memories
of the East End". Contact Barry on
01708 703783 and leave a message
or send an email secretary@
upminsterprobus.com.

MARCH

**2 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. 'Pounds,
Shillings and Poverty' is the talk
by David Williams. The Internet &
Technology Group meet at the same
venue 11am - where a Q&A session
is followed by 'Dates & Calendars
for Family Historians' with Charlie
Mead. Teas and coffees can be
purchased. Members and visitors
welcome to either or both.

5 Tuesday - Oglethorpe W.I. Our
Annual Meeting. Visitors and new
members are always welcome to our
meetings which are held on the first
Tuesday of each month at Cranham
Social Hall, 103 Front Lane,
Cranham, RM14 1XN at 7.45 pm. For
further information contact Secretary
Mrs. E. Bell on 01708 251 161 or just
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Which Ward

A huge welcome to all the new households in our Upminster and Cranham Wards. You are represented by our own local "Residents Councillors". Cranham Ward is north of the Upminster to Fenchurch Street Railway line including the Dury Falls Estate. Represented by Clarence Barrett, Gillian Ford and John Tyler.

Upminster Ward is south of the railway line including North Ockendon and the Cranham Cathedral Estate. Represented by Linda Hawthorn, Ron Ower and Chris Wilkins. Please note contact details are on Page 22.

Whist Drive

Every Third Thursday of every month (except December), from 7.45 to 10pm, a Special Whist Drive is held at the Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens, Cranham. It is played with teams of four. Military Whist - some people know this game as Hearts, or Solo - is played in exactly the same way... with a few adjustments (which are not complicated and have nothing to do with the Armed Forces!) If you are conversant with card playing and would like to participate, please contact Harry (01708 227457) who will explain everything.

Friends of Parklands

Do you use Parklands Open Space? Perhaps to fish or walk the dog. Maybe just to sit on a bench by the lake and observe the wildlife.

If so, why not become a member of Friends of Parklands? To be honest, there are no tangible benefits in becoming a member, just the satisfaction that you are helping to preserve one of Upminster's gems.

The annual subscription is just £5. You can join at any time by sending a cheque made payable to "Friends of Parklands" to Marylyn Ennever, our membership secretary, at 49 Parkland Avenue. Don't forget to include your contact details including email address. Anonymous donations are also welcome!

There is no obligation for members to attend our monthly working parties, although they are of course, welcome to do so. For further information please see our website www.friendsofparklands.org.uk or phone Roy on 01708 781037. If you have yet to discover Parklands, why not pay a visit? The 370 bus stops outside the entrance in Corbets Tey Road. The car park is off the entrance in Park Farm Road.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Rev'd Susannah Brasier, Rector of St. Laurence Church, Upminster and her husband Richard, on the birth of their son on 29th November. They have named him Edward Christopher. Susannah is currently on maternity leave with her role being undertaken by Fr. Roy Murray, Associate Priest until her return.

Linda Van den Hende

Pheasant Shooting

My article about pheasant shooting, and how I was pleased to see the banning of this so-called sport in Wales certainly rattled the cage. One reader - a fisherman, who seemed concerned that his sport would be the targeted next - can I say, I do not see a direct link between shooting pheasants and fishing, where the fish are returned unharmed to the water. I have a high regard for animals and their welfare but I do not expect others to follow me, and object if anyone tries to convert me. Possibly stemming from a childhood with a very much animal loving father, who filled our home and garden with dogs, hamsters, rabbits, fish and even chickens I learnt from a very early age to share my life with animals,

and that they have feelings of fear, pain and contentment just the same as me. I learnt to respect them, and live with them, not considering myself in any way superior, or that they were their for me to use in any form of sport. I make no apology for my views, but they are mine, and mine alone.

Not only am I pleased about the ban of pheasant shooting, I'm delighted to tell readers that soon it will be the law that a puppy can only be brought from reputable dealers, hopefully making it more difficult for puppy farm owner to practice, and from 2020, circuses will be banned from having animals in their acts. Havering have long banned these from their owned land.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Windmill Quiz

I am pleased to say that the annual quiz night for the Windmill is to be held on Saturday 23rd Feb, 2019, in the main hall of St Laurence church - cost £6 per person, bring your own refreshments - this is always a popular event, so please book early on 01708 225451. All proceeds will go towards our Windmill.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN



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Upminster Ward	Cranham Ward
Linda Hawthorn 01708 225451  lindahawthorn@hotmail.co.uk	Clarence Barrett 07863 116029  cllrclarencebarrett@yahoo.co.uk
Ron Ower 07721 780372  cllronower@yahoo.com	Gillian Ford 01708 641317  councillorgillian.ford@haverling.gov.uk
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Upminster Organiser Chris Wilkins 07960 059 195 wilkinschristopher7@gmail.com	Residents' Association Website Cllr Clarence Barrett (07863 116029) www.ucra.co.uk



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Our Marks and Spencer Food Shop at 51-53 Station Rd, Upminster is well established.
Planning permission was given just before Christmas for the installation of a mobile trolley bay to the side the shop.

Christmas Tree Festival 2018

In the first week of December, the Christmas tree festival was held at the Upminster Methodist church. Thirty-three trees were in the church, all beautifully decorated on the theme of, "What's on the Box" - our favourite television programmes. There was an amazing response with such a variety of subjects: "Alpha Blocks" tree, from Springfield Playgroup, the Churches Together group had chosen "Television Vicars" and the 3rd Upminster Cubs tree was "Match of the day."



This year we were pleased to have the support from some new decorators from the local area : Doctor Domestic , the 6th Upminster Brownies, PHAB Youth Club, the Essex After School club, Lottie and Ollie' Nursery, and The Oaks Residential Care Home. I think everyone who visited would agree how hard it was to choose a favourite tree, as they all were so beautiful. Engayne Primary School came first with 96 votes with 'Dancing on Ice' and were the winner of the Festival Cup, voted for by visitors to the festival. The runners up were the Upminster Childminders with 81 votes and 1st Upminster Brownies. Our thanks go to the local Primary schools choirs who came to sing during the week and all the many visitors who came, making it so successful. And of course we thank the sponsors of the trees, and all the decorators for their imaginative ideas.

We were able to send a cheque for £3750 to First Step, combining the profits from the tree festival donations together with the money raised at the sell-out concert performed by the United Singers and The Upminster Golf Club Ladies choir, and the Christmas market held on the Saturday. We thank the Residents Association for their support and for publicising the event.

Photos of the festival are on the church website - upminstermethodistchurch.org.uk. Looking forward to seeing you at the festival in 2019!

Your Help Please

We need a volunteer please to drop off Bulletins to several of our deliverers please. Also as we are splitting Deliveries. If you can assist delivering The Bulletin please get in touch with me.
Your support and assistance is much appreciated. Please contact me on 07960 059195.

Chris Wilkins

Saturday Talks Club

Essex and the Mayflower Pilgrims
Speaker is Julien Whybra on Saturday February 9th 2019 at 2.15pm (Doors open 1.45pm).
Venue Roope Hall, United Reform Church, Station Road, Upminster.
Cost £4.00 including Tea and biscuits. For further information contact Mrs G. Blake 01708 227512 / 07788751407 or Mrs B Bland 01689 858701 / 07951217930.

Empty Home?

Local family searching for an empty home to occupy for 6 months. We are a local Upminster family of four. We are vacating our property for approximately 6 months due to building works, and are looking for an empty home in Upminster to occupy while the building works are being completed. If your home is empty, or you are aware of an empty home, that would benefit from a family moving in for a short period in a house-sitting capacity, please get in contact for further discussions
T: 07487 760732
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Luncheon Recitals

St Laurence Church - Thursday Luncheon, free admission with retiring collection. All concerts 1.05pm - 1.50pm.

February
7th Alexander Hamilton - organ (Westminster Abbey)
21st Tiffany Hore - flute (Cranham)

DIARY - FEBRUARY

Upminster Ward Meeting
Wednesday 6th March 7.30pm at St Josephs Hall, St. Marys Lane. David Parish will be speaking on Upminster Town Centre, Past, Present and the Future.
Cranham Ward Meeting
To be Advised, in the meantime please contact any of your Cranham councillors (details on this page).

AGM - Monday 25th February
see front page for details.

Article & Advertising Submission Deadlines

Articles - 1st Month / Advertising - 3rd Month

Copy to be received on or before the above dates one Month prior to the publish date. Please note that submitting an article does not guarantee publication. Email: bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk



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