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UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

2019/20 Budget & Council Tax



Following recent articles on the 2019/20 budget and Council Tax we will be featuring a full update in the April issue with regular posts on our website (ucra.co.uk). We are opposing the draconian increases in car park charges and have put forward an alternative plan that will be based on supporting our local shops and residents.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

The disabled and residents claiming benefits to pay more Council Tax

A proposal to increase council tax contribution payments from claimants on benefits and the disabled was narrowly voted through at Havering Council last month, despite vigorous opposition from many councillors who backed a proposal put down by the Upminster & Cranham Residents' Association to block any increase. Although the consultation on the proposed changes was rejected by 65% of respondents, the increases were nonetheless voted through by all conservative councillors by a margin of 29 to 24. The scheme will now mean that the annual contribution from those working age people on benefits will increase from 15% of council tax to 25% (Based on Band D property, £249 to £415) and 15% to 20% for the disabled (£249 to £332). The change will also mean Havering residents will be amongst the schemes across the whole of London that require the highest level of contribution from working age claimants. The new charges will affect some 9,000 Havering households, and with multiple occupants that is around 30,000 residents. Add in the adverse impact of Universal Credit and the growth of food banks, the picture becomes even worse. As elected representatives we must do all we can to support our poorest and most vulnerable to the best of our abilities and not use them as revenue raising items. There are plenty of other ways to bridge any funding gap without targeting those least able to pay.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Ward Councillors Continue To lobby For More Police In Upminster & Cranham

We have been lobbying various organisations/MP to address concerns raised by local residents regarding crime in Upminster and Cranham wards. This has included meeting the local MP and contacting the Borough Police Commander responsible for Havering. Also, as mentioned in another article in this month's Bulletin, we met with the Greater London Assembly (GLA) member, who represents both Upminster and Cranham wards.

Both the GLA member and the Police were very supportive and were committed to reducing crime in both wards. The police have confirmed they are working with the Safer Transport Command (STC) and the British Transport Police (BTP) to ensure there is visible and effective policing on the bus routes, train lines and at the station. The Police have been reviewing crime statistics and have reported there has been a reduction in burglaries in Upminster and Cranham and the crime rates in both Wards remain low against the rest of London. However, they reported seeing an increase in robberies particularly involving children and young adults. In response they are working on a number of plans to tackle and reduce these serious crimes. We will continue to lobby the relevant agencies to put pressure on them so the Police provide adequate resources in both our wards.

Councillors Linda Hawthorn, Ron Ower
and Chris Wilkins

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Meeting at City Hall

As there are a number of areas of concern that the Greater London Authority are responsible for, we felt we should meet up with our Assembly member who also represents Redbridge at the GLA. Linda and Chris were able firstly to sit on the Police committee where the Deputy Mayor was questioned on Metropolitan Police activities. Ron had a meeting elsewhere and joined us after this.



With our Assembly member we discussed local Policing and we did hear earlier that the Mayor was committing further funds of £85 million to the Met Police. We asked if there was any news on Gallows Corner being upgraded which we understand is subject of a survey and when we receive news we will be in touch on this. With the Mayors request for almost 1900 new dwellings a year which could have a big knock on effect for

Havering. We all agreed that we want to keep Havering green. We also discussed any help that Upminster Park could get. This was a very constructive meeting and we will keep in touch with you on this. The building itself is open to the Public having gone through a security system similar to airport security. The "canteen" is open to the Public selling a wide range of food and refreshments at a reasonable price. The building had the same architect as The Gherkin (Norman Foster) and is only a short walk from either London Bridge (Jubilee Line) or Fenchurch Street Station (Over Tower Bridge on pleasant days).

Cllrs LINDA HAWTHORN RON OWER CHRIS WILKINS

Upminster Police Update

Following the recent Ward Panel meeting there is some good news about burglary reduction over the past 3 months. Compared to October 2017 burglary was down 9% in October 2018, there was an 18% reduction in November compared to 2017 and in December the reduction was 62% compared to 2017. Clearly residents are being more careful about home safety which it is hoped

will continue. The news on Motor Vehicle crime is not so good. Overall, Motor Vehicle crime remained static in November 2018 compared to 2017, however in December 2018 there was a 122% increase on December 2017. This increase is a combination of stolen cars, most of which are those where keyless access was used, with other crimes being theft from motor vehicles. Many people are still leaving valuables on show in their cars leading to windows being smashed and contents taken. There have also been a number of number plates stolen. Robberies, mainly mobile phones and cash have also increased from a total of one in November and December 2017 to 10 in the same period in 2018. Police advise to keep mobile phones out of sight when walking around the town to avoid opportunist crime. The police office in Corbets Tey Road, which has been closed to the public for some time will close permanently in June 2019. It is not clear where officers will be based after June.

Linda Van den Hende

Upminster Town Centre Talk

David Parish will be speaking on "Upminster Town Centre - Past, Present and the Future" at the

Upminster Ward meeting on Wednesday 6th March 7.30pm at St Josephs Hall, St.Marys Lane.

Friends of Upminster Mini Golf

Ahead of the new season, the next meeting of the Friends Group will be on 28th March (6.30pm) at the Cranham Community Centre (Room 5), Marlborough Gardens - all very welcome. We are also very keen to hear from anyone who would be interested in helping to run the course this season.

Cranham Councillor Drop in Sessions

Residents are invited to drop in to Café 4 You (Front Lane, beneath the Cranham Social Centre) on March 21st. 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.

Cllrs BARRETT, FORD & TYLER

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Planning Applications

As the February Bulletin was being produced Havering Council gave out details of the following applications:

Reference P1884.18 .209/213 St. Marys lane (opposite Waitrose Store) demolition of existing building and construction of a three storey new building to accommodate 8 self - contained two bedroom units on ground, first and second floors. Closing existing vehicular access and formation of new vehicle access with eight off- street parking spaces.

Reference P1822.18 18 Station Road (former Nat West Bank building) change of use to provide retail unit and storage at basement and ground floor levels and two residential units at first floor level. Installation of additional window and door openings to front and side elevation.

We will keep you informed on these applications

East African Playgrounds

I am an Upminster resident and am currently raising funds for East African Playgrounds as a volunteer.

East African Playgrounds is working with UNICEF to provide children in rural parts of Africa with more opportunities to play and learn. Here are a few examples of where the money raised goes to:

- 1) EAP builds playgrounds for schools (lead by local professionals, and all materials are purchased from suppliers in Uganda).
- 2) They run apprenticeship programmes for former homeless children to become qualified welders, providing them with their own welding boots and tools.
- 3) They offer training programmes for Ugandan teachers and care-givers to incorporate a play-based teaching approach.

Here is my fundraising page if you would like more information, or would like to support the project in anyway.
<https://www.eastafricanplaygrounds.org/fundraisers/civvie-volunteers-in-uganda-2019>

Civvie Man

Parks Protection Service

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Orange & Black Bags Mixed

Some years back, orange and black sacks were collected together and thrown into the back of the refuse truck in the same compartment. This gave the distinct impression that recycled items were just mixed up with general waste and defeated the purpose of recycling. However, once at the disposal depot, the orange sacks were picked out by laser on a conveyor belt and sorted accordingly. This practice was quite inefficient and was subsequently replaced by separate collection rounds, which is better by far. Occasionally, due to capacity or operational issues, orange and black sacks may be collected together, but they would then have to be sorted again using the old system. However, this is just inefficient rather than wasteful and I would encourage all residents to recycle as much as they can.

CLlr CLARENCE BARRETT

Murder Mystery

The Wesley players are presenting a Murder Mystery at Trinity Church,

Station Road, Upminster on Saturday, 16th March 2019. Time: 7,00 for 7.30 p.m. £10 per head, to include ploughman's supper. Pre-booking essential - please ring 01708 222189 or 01708 226910. Tables of 8, but smaller numbers are welcome. Please bring own drinks, glasses and nibbles. All proceeds (including raffle) will go to The Whitechapel Mission, Trinity's charity for 2019.

Poppy Appeal Update

Upminster and Cranham Royal British Legion.
We are very proud to announce the Poppy Appeal total to date £28,746.42.
We wish to thank all who donated in any way, including local businesses, schools, community groups and churches for their help.
These funds go to help veterans and those currently serving in the Armed Forces.
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CLlr CLARENCE BARRETT

First Step Events

From 12pm to 4pm on Saturday 9th March, at their building in Tangmere Crescent Hornchurch, First Step will be holding their 6th annual event to mark International Women's Day. With speakers including Nicole Evans-Dear (Ex-Paratriathlete - Silver British Championship 2013), a gospel choir, the Havering libraries poetry group, a 'Purple Zone' featuring yoga, personal fitness, beauty treatments, Reiki, reflexology and hand massage. A 'Green Zone' with stalls selling preserves, jewellery, books, cards and more. Tickets are £4 each which includes a hot drink voucher and Bingo card. Traditional afternoon tea and Prosecco afternoon tea will also be sold during the afternoon. Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling 01708 556355 or on the door.

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continued on page 7



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Charity Race Night

Haverling East Rotary Club are holding a Charity Race Night on the 16th of March 2019. Have a fun evening at the races at Hornchurch High School, Broadstone Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4AJ. Doors Open at 7.00 pm, first race 7.30 pm. Tickets £5. Children under 12 free. Raising money for local charities. For tickets or information telephone Chris on 01708 458092.

Queens Theatre

From the 14th March to the 30th March "In Basildon". A juicy slice of Essex family life. In Basildon launches the Queen's Theatre's Essex on Stage programme, a new two year programme that champions the positive notions of Essex, celebrating theatre made by working class people and raising aspirations for emerging artists from Essex and Outer East London.

"The Hired Man" from the 27th April to 18th May 2019. Advertised as the best British musical in 40 years. Based on the stirring novel by Melvyn Bragg. Box Office 01708 443333.

Hornchurch Football Club

Please note the following home games at The Stadium, Bridge Avenue: Tuesday 5th Wingate & Finchley, kick off 7.45pm. Saturday 23rd Bishops Stortford and Saturday 6th April Haringey Borough. Kick off for both these games 3pm.

The club has an excellent bar, go along and support your local team. Keep in touch also with their web site afchornchurch.com.

Diabetes UK-Havering Group Established for almost 40 Years

Meetings are held at North Street Halls, 24 North Street, Hornchurch, RM11 1QX (Opposite Iceland. Normally on the third Monday of each month (except for August and January) at 8pm. Due to cost of hall hire we are obliged to charge £2 per person per attendance.

The March talk is given by Dr. Eugene Marias BchD (pret) MJDF RCS Eng a Qualified Cosmetic Dentist about Diabetes and teeth. We have our own website, it includes our whole list of events for the year, plus other

valuable information for your attention.

The link to our website is <http://havering.diabetesukgroup.org/> or contact our secretary, Ann on 01708 935779 for more details. Everyone is Welcome and if you are a diabetes sufferer it is well worth coming to our meetings, we can provide the support you need. We have a speaker every month, on a medical subject, you can really get some good advice.

Volunteers Required

Upminster Riding for the Disabled group founded in 1973 is looking for volunteers for Wednesday afternoon 1pm-3pm during term Time. Horse knowledge is not necessary. The pleasure given and received by our group is so rewarding. Why not come and see what we do? For more information please contact Sandy 01708 756431.

Bake Club

Vanilla Bake Club meets up again on 1st April 2019 at 6.30pm at the Old Chapel, when our theme for the evening will be Caribbean! As usual the theme is not compulsory, just bake your favourite thing if you'd prefer.

continued on page 9

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Wednesday Music Evenings

Wednesday 13th March 2019 at 7.30pm

Jazz Standards from the Great American Songbook - presented by Alan Morris

Our resident jazz specialist takes a second look at how some great jazz soloists and bands have interpreted the music from The Great American Songbook. We expect to hear recordings of many great jazz bands and groups with their interpretations of some of the work of great 20th century composers and lyricists such as George & Ira Gershwin, Rodgers & Hart, Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Cole Porter and Harold Arlen as well

as some of the lesser known tin-pan alley tunesmiths.

Wednesday 27th March 2019 at 7.30pm

A Splash of Colour - presented by Harry Newman

Music from the concert hall, musical or variety theatre with a colour as its title, mood or subject. Harry will have little difficulty including colours blue, green and red in his playlist of over 20 tracks that will also include some rainbow themed songs and surprisingly brick red, dove grey or flaming amber. Expect to hear Barbara Streisand, Elton John, Andy Stewart, Cleo Lane and Doris Day plus some fine orchestras and big bands. 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.

Spring Concert

The Cappella Singers Of Upminster will be performing their Spring Concert on Friday 29th March 2019 at 8.00 p.m. at The Old Chapel, St.

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Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex (opposite Upminster Windmill). The programme includes music by Vaughan Williams and Brahms. Tickets inclusive of light refreshments costing £10 may be purchased on the door or in advance from Mr. Ian Pirie on (01708) 641718.

Guided Wild-Flower Walks

There will be one walk in the afternoon in a Wednesday in each month, starting in April, last one in August. We meet by the visitor centre at Belhus Woods Country Park and we set out at 1:30pm, returning by 4:30pm, so we are out for 3 hours.

Choice of clothing is important, as there may well be mud, and Brambles, and unwanted biting insects. Strongly suggested: Wear old and tough clothes that will keep your skin protected, wear old tough trousers, wear wellies or similar, unless the weather has been dry all summer! (As it did this last summer!). Participants must be able to kneel down on the ground, and get up again, without assistance. We are on our feet for the full 3 hours, but we usually walk rather slowly. Bring some items that might be helpful:

Sunhat if it is hot and sunny, skin cream if biting insects are out and about, notebook and pencil, a small hand lens (but I can lend one of mine if you don't have one). No dogs, please, as they are always trying to get to the same spot that we want to look at!!!! If you have a wild flower book, do bring it. Some folk bring a mobile phone with camera in it, but definitely not essential.

If you come by car, there is a large car park but you have to pay. Better value if you fill your car! The Park requires a small fee, usually it is about £5 per head. Dates: all Wed afternoons: 3rd April; 1st May; 5th June; 10th July; 7th August.

If you want more information, or if you have a question, please contact me on 01708 228921 or email m.smith33gpr@gmail.com.

Havering Singers

Havering Singers Spring Concert Saturday April 13 2019 @ 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm. Venue St. Peter's Church, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood, Essex RM3 0QA. Haydn Harmoniemesse, and Mozart Requiem in D minor K626.

Havering Singers Summer Concert - Summer Delights - A Selection

continued on page 11

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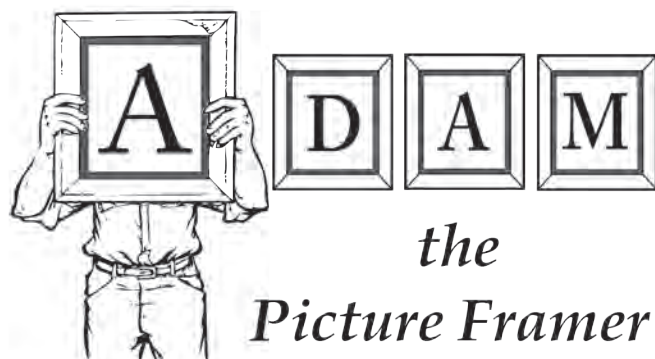


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from the Shows. Saturday July 20 2019 @ 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm. Venue: St. Peter's Church, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood, Essex RM3 0QA. See www.haveringsingers.org.uk for more details on how to buy tickets for these events.

Singers Wanted

Local choir Havering Singers with members from all over the Borough and beyond are currently seeking new members for all sections. If you are interested in joining a choir see www.haveringsingers.org.uk for details of rehearsals and upcoming events or contact them at contact@haveringsingers.org.uk for more information.

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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Divorce Q&A

Q: Is there such a thing as a no fault divorce in England & Wales?

A: To divorce you need to show that the marriage has broken down. To do so you need to evidence one of five facts:

- Adultery
- Unreasonable behaviour
- 2 years' separation with consent
- 5 years' separation where consent is not needed, or lastly,
- Desertion

Therefore, as you can see, if you wish to divorce immediately it needs to proceed based upon a fault.

Q: What is a no-fault divorce and is it likely to happen in England & Wales?

A: A no-fault divorce is a dissolution of a marriage where neither party is at fault and you do not need to prove any wrong doing by the other party. Currently, lawyers are hoping that a no-fault divorce will be forthcoming - a consultation by government is currently awaited. This will speed up the divorce process and make it less acrimonious. No end date has been given for the consultation and we do not know how long this process will take.

Q: How long is the divorce procedure?

A: From the date of issue of the petition it usually takes 6 months to 9 months to obtain decree absolute, although you may be advised not to apply for Decree Absolute until the financial issues are resolved. However, it is hoped that if a no-fault divorce is implemented by the government the timescale will be

reduced to 3 months. There are also significant Court delays at the current time.

Q: If I petition for a divorce who pays the costs?

A: You can ask in your petition that the other party is ordered by the court to pay your costs, which will then need to be agreed or assessed by the Court. However, if you agree to divorce on a grounds of separation it is usual to agree to share the costs equally. Pinney Talfourd offers a fixed fee divorce service where the case is straight forward and not contested.

Q: Do I have to attend court?

A: No - divorce proceedings are a paper exercise and you do not have to attend court unless the case is defended.

These questions were answered by Sarah Tsindides, a Senior Associate in the Family Team at Pinney Talfourd. Contact Sarah on 01708 229 444 if you would like more information or have any other questions on family law.

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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.

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continued on page 15

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Front Garden Conversions Can Cost More

Don't let your front garden conversion cost you more. Havering Council's Planning Enforcement Team have asked us to remind residents thinking of converting their grass or soft landscaped front garden areas into a hard surface area for parking, to check on what consent is needed and what the restrictions are.

This is due to a rising trend of creating an expanse of tarmac, concrete or bricks/blocks that are not porous or permeable, as it is important to ensure that surface water drains into the front garden itself rather than flowing across the footway into the drains in the road. Details can be found online by searching 'planning portal driveway' and clicking on the Planning Portal website entry or by searching 'environment agency

paving front gardens' and viewing the Environment Agency guidance document.

Havering Council's Planning Enforcement Team say conversions that do not adhere to the regulations could result in notices being issued to the home owner to carry out remedial works at their own cost. They can be contacted via e-mail at planning_enforcement@haverling.gov.uk or via the general council number of 01708 434343.

Cllr John Tyler

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St. Georges Day Big Band

The Rotary Club of Hornchurch and Upminster are holding their annual charity St. Georges Day Big Band event at the Windmill Hall in St Mary's Lane, Upminster. The event features the 17-piece Ken Turner Big Band who will entertain with a variety of music including Glen Miller and Frank Sinatra. The date is 20th April 2019 and the time is from 8.00 pm. All proceeds from the evening will be donated to local charities, the main beneficiaries being First Step and Saint Francis Hospice. The tickets are on sale at £20 per person which includes a fish and chips or chicken and chips supper. For tickets please phone either Brian Taffs on 01708 250855 or Terry Monk on 01708 226305.

We Are FSTVL Residents Meeting

Tuesday 26th March - 7pm

Hurford Hall (behind Upminster Library), St. Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, RM14 2BB.

LOCAL FUTURE EVENTS MARCH

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. Undiscovered Norfolk. 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 Friday at St Laurence Church Minor Hall RM14 2BB. 10.00 to 11.45 am. Beginners welcome. 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 Greening The City People And Wildlife, Paul Beckett from the City of London Corporation will explain how green roofs and pocket parks bring a variety of wildlife into the city. 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, presents New Plants for Free with 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 Myths and Legends in Art by Colin Lomas. 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

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 Miller on Whitechapel Mission. 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 - Deyncourt Ladies Probud Lunch Club meet every 3rd

continued on page 19



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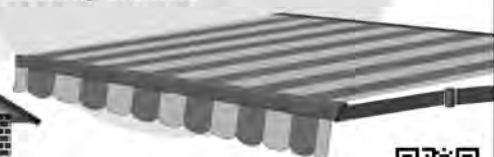
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Wednesday of the month (except August) and welcome new members who are retired. Meetings are held at the Masonic Centre Deyncourt Gardens Upminster. Meetings commence at 11.30 am lunch is 12.00pm and we have a speaker to follow. Please contact Julia Deverill for further details on:- tel. 01708745788 Email:- frelia.deverill@talktalk.net

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, Cranham. We hold meetings every month with a variety of speakers and wine tasting. For more information contact Maureen Jasper on 01708 223956, or simply come along on the night. You will be most welcome.

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 Probosc Club meet at The Cranleigh, 84 Station Road, Hornchurch, RM12 6LX on the last Wednesday of the month. Richard Dodd will be talking on "Buildings that

made the Seaside. Bathing Machines, Beach Huts, Boardwalks and Butlins". Contact Barry on 01708 703783 and leave a message or send an email secretary@upminsterprobosc.com.

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

30 Saturday - RSPB Havering - Coach trip, RSPB Lakenheath Fen NR, Suffolk. £20 per seat. Contact Mike Hughes Tel: 01708 250585 E-mail: mikeboy015@gmail.com.

APRIL

2 Tuesday - Oglethorpe W.I. Entertainment for our Birthday is provided by Ray Spiller with Music Charts 1952-2015. 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 come along on the evening.

6 Saturday - The Havering Branch of the East of London Family History Society hold meetings on the first Saturday of every month at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster RM14 2SJ doors open at 1pm meeting starts at 2pm. 'Parish Registers' with Robert Parker. The Internet & Technology Group meet at the same venue 11am - where a Q&A session is followed by 'Using Social Media for Family History' with Robert Parker. Teas and coffees can be purchased. Members and visitors welcome to either or both.

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The Upminster and District Horticultural Society

We are back and for our first lecture of the year we have Tom Cole telling us how we can get New Plants for Free on Tuesday 12th March 2019. This is the ideal time to start propagating plants or at least thinking about it. Tom who is from Writtle college will be speaking about cuttings, grafting and seed sowing that will help to increase your stock of plants and provide plants for friends and neighbours or even our plant sale in May! The lecture takes place in the New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster. We will start with our AGM at 7.45pm and then move on to our lecture which will finish at 9.45pm. There will be an interval for tea and biscuits. Entrance is free to members and is £2 for non-members. You can find out more about our society by visiting our website www.upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk We hope to see you there.

Quiz Night

A quiz night to raise funds for restoration work on the Grade 1 listed building of St Mary Magdalene is arranged for Saturday 27th April. 7.15 for prompt 7.30pm Start.

Church Lane, North Ockendon, RM14 3QH.
Everybody is Welcome. Tables of six £6 per person. Bring your own food and drink. Free parking. Please phone 01708 225845 to book a table.

Chapman's Farm - Update

The decision on the planning application (P1673.18) to build 9 houses on the Green Belt site at Chapman's Farm (stable yard), Hall Lane, is now due in mid-March. The date has been extended to allow the Council more time to consider the scheme. As previously reported, the application received 137 letters of objection, which is a fantastic measure of the depth of feeling in the community. Should the decision be to refuse, then the application ends – but further applications could be made. If the application is recommended for approval, then it will be presented to the Planning Committee for final decision. If that is the case, we shall advise on dates and processes via our website (ucra.co.uk), social media and The Bulletin.

Cllr CLARENCE BARRETT

Upminster park

I am pleased to say that our Greater London Authority member, Keith Prince, has agreed to attend the Upminster Parks friends meeting on Wednesday 27th March at the Trinity Church, Station Road at 7.30pm to discuss matters about our fantastic park - your Councillors will also be attending. The article in the Bulletin a few months ago produced a few more friends for the group, more members would not go amiss.

Please contact me for further details, see page 22 for contact information.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Quiz Evening

Stewart Avenue Allotments are holding their Spring Quiz Evening on Saturday 23rd March at Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens, 7pm for 7.30pm start. £6 per person, bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tables of up to 10 can be booked with Jackie on 01708 641624 or StewardSAAllotments@outlook.com. All proceeds go towards the upkeep of the allotments.

continued on page 22

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Canopy At Byron Mansions

Kindly note the following message I have received from the Council regarding the Canopy at Byron Mansions, Corbets Tey Road, comment from the contractor of Coral the bookmakers.

As I write the contractor was due to meet the site team on the 14th February and I hope when you read this work has taken place.

"Dear Councillor Hawthorn, Please see update below relating to the removal of the potentially dangerous canopy glazing at Byron Mansions. The removal will extend to outside the café at No. 13 Corbets Tey Road. This is from the contractor of Coral the bookmakers:

To keep you updated, I have received the permit to carry out the works to remove the dangerous glass panels. Our permitted working time is between 9:30-3:00 only. I am meeting with the site team tomorrow to organise the works I hope to have all dangerous glass panels removed by the end of the Week. Failing that, early next week. Please remember that the panels will not be replaced for the time being.

Please note as the time restrictions for the works are within your opening times there may be some time when the



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zone of work area is in front of the entrance. However when this takes place there will be a man on the ground to assist anyone wanting to get in the premises through the site works safely so no obstruction to business should occur."

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Aldi Car Park

The Council were informed by us in January that the lights were not working in Aldi Car Park, Wilson Close (Off Gaynes Road). The Council spoke to Aldi "and requested that they repair the lights as soon as possible. Since Aldi rent the car park from the Council, it is their responsibility to repair any lights that are not working." The lights were back in action shortly afterwards.

Subscriptions

Our Annual charge of £2 per household has not changed for years and we are pleased to announce the amount stays the same. Welcome to those new households who have joined us. Subs collecting has started and we are short of collectors in several Roads. Please contact Chris on 07960 059195 if you can assist. We need the subscription cash to keep the Association going and to have reserve funds to fight on behalf of residents.

Autism Awareness Day

'BE OUR GUEST' at our AUTISM AWARENESS DAY.
Saturday 6th April, 9.30am - 4.00pm
at St Laurence Church, Upminster (next to Upminster Library)
For the past two years JSD Dance & Musical Theatre have raised money very successfully for the National Autistic Society - over £2,000 in total so far! On Saturday 6th April we will be holding our annual 'Be Our Guest' event to help raise money and awareness! Throughout the day refreshments will be available, there will also be many stalls for the children (and adults!) to spend their pennies on, including our usual Face Painting, Hair Braiding, bows, tombola etc. We had so much fun last year please do come along and join us, admission is free.

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 are much appreciated. Please contact me on 07960 059195.

Chris Wilkins

Saturday Talks Club

Entertainment in Wartime Britain

The speaker is Mike Brown on Saturday March 9th 2019 at 2.15pm (Doors open 1.45pm)
Venue Roope Hall, United Reform Church, Station Lane, 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.

Become a Bridge World Champion!

Well not quite but.... the area's new bridge club Upminster & Cranham Bridge Club is holding event 1 of its 'World of Bridge' competition on Monday 25th March at 10am in the trendy Italian restaurant Osteria Due Amici. The day begins with Italian coffee and biscotti, continues with 12 hands of bridge followed by a delicious 2 course lunch. Another 12 hands of bridge are then followed by coffee and results. World of Bridge is a quarterly competition with a social element, the winner/s will have the best average from at least 3 of the 4 events and be known as our World Champion. The cost for event 1 is £25 (£22.50 for club members) - places are limited - please call Tony on 07957 406088 to book. Payment required with booking.

Luncheon Recitals

St Laurence Church - Thursday Luncheon, free admission with retiring collection. All concerts 1.05pm - 1.50pm.
March
7th Simon Williams - Organ (St George's Church, Hanover Sq)
21st Tiago Gomes - Guitar (London)

DIARY - MARCH

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).

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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