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UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Happy New Year to you all!

We hope you have all had a great Christmas and wish you a very Happy New Year. Firstly, I would like to thank all our volunteers, who over the past year have continued to help produce and deliver The Bulletin during these difficult and challenging times. The Association would also like to extend a very warm welcome to all the new households that joined us in 2020. We are looking forward to working with and representing you in 2021. Last year was a very difficult year for us all, but with the continued rollout of the vaccine programme this year, I'm sure we all hope that we can return back to some normality. The Bulletin will continue to support local organisations and provide our residents with ongoing community events.

During 2020 your Residents' Councillors were involved in a number of projects, which included re-launching the Shop Local, Hire Local initiative, which encouraged residents to support our local business community. In addition, we lobbied/pushed the Conservative Administration successfully to re-open Gerpins Lane recycling centre, continue to deliver orange sacks, as well as reinstating the green waste collection, during the lockdown.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with ideas or issues you would like us to contest or celebrate on your behalf. Please all keep safe and I hope you all have a productive and fruitful New Year.

Councillor CHRIS WILKINS -
Chairman Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association

The Windmill restored to its glory

See page 17 for full story



Boundary Commission proposals

Further to the article in the November Bulletin, we were delighted to see that several hundred residents sent objections to the Boundary Commission against their proposal to move the Corbets Tey Village area and a number of nearby farms and roads to Rainham & Wennington Ward. We wrote to all the homes in this

area pointing out the Boundary Commission proposals.

A significant section of this area, ie Corbets Tey Village, is in one of the borough's Conservation areas with a long association with Upminster. Residents rightly pointed out that there is no direct public transport connection to Rainham and the area is an integral

part of Upminster. They shop in the Upminster town centre and their children attend local schools. Many moved into the area to be a part of the established Upminster community with its fantastic parks, open spaces and excellent public transport connections.

On behalf of the Residents' Association we have expressed our

serious concern and hope that the Boundary Commission see sense and leave the area in Upminster. Their proposals are due out later this month and we will keep you up to date on this.

Cllrs LINDA HAWTHORN,
RON OWE & CHRIS WILKINS

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Thames Chase Community Forest to benefit from a national £12.1 million Trees for Climate plan creating 500 hectares of new woodland by 2021

Over the next 4 months, Thames Chase will be one of the 10 England's Community Forests planting trees, to help deliver the English portion of the Government's commitment to increase tree planting to 30,000 hectares per year, across the UK by 2025.

Dave Bigden, Consultant Forest Director for Thames Chase Trust, said: "Thames Chase Trust is delighted to be part of this national initiative. The creation of

new woodlands, combined with the increase in management of existing woodlands, has already made significant improvements in the recreational, amenity and biodiversity values of Thames Chase Community Forest. Thames Chase Trust will be working with partners and landowners to plant up to 8.5 hectares between December 2020 and March 2021. Please visit www.thameschase.org.uk for opportunities to get involved in tree planting.

Council finances update and 2021/22 budget setting

Further to the December Bulletin, the Council will be facing a budget gap of £27million for 2021/22. In order to achieve a balanced budget for the coming year, the Council has identified £19million of savings and efficiencies to close the remaining gap. Havering Council would like to seek the views of residents and businesses

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on the budget and saving proposals for 2021/22.

1. To establish how residents have been affected by the COVID pandemic; the particular pressures and hardships people may be experiencing, and to understand how the Council can help and support people in the Borough next year.
2. To learn which Council services are of most value and importance to enable us to present a budget that focuses on the real priorities for residents, while allowing us to continue to provide the right support through the remainder of the pandemic.

The budget has to be set in February 2021 for the 2021/22 financial year. Havering Council has launched an online consultation, to enable residents and businesses to give their views on the Council's budget saving proposals, for the financial year 2021/22. It also gives people the chance to highlight what sections of the Council's financial responsibilities they value most and what they would reduce

spending on, if necessary. The consultation is open from now until 15 January 2021. To take part, use the Council Budget Consultation link. If you would like to provide your local resident Councillors with any suggestions regarding the above, please send them on to bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk. This will help us when formulating any future alternative budgets.

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

Local businesses

We are always delighted to publicise new businesses in the area. If you have a new venture please let us know at bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk

Over the years The Bulletin has assisted many new businesses and for commercial advertising, please contact Martin Flower - full contact details on page 22.



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Lower Thames Crossing - application withdrawn

With reference to our article in December's Bulletin, concerning the proposed Lower Thames Crossing, shortly after we went to press Highways England announced they had temporarily withdrawn their application. This is apparently due to the Planning Inspectorate being unhappy with several aspects of the application.

A new application is being prepared for submission and we ask that Havering Council calls upon its Leader to reiterate its concerns to the Government and our Members of Parliament in respect of the following:

- Adverse impact on residential amenities for homes in Havering in terms of noise, disturbance and vibration.
- Loss of homes in the North Ockendon area.
- Impact on conservation areas and heritage assets in the locality.

- Adverse impact of ongoing works and siting of works compounds.
- Should the Crossing go ahead as planned, that Havering residents are eligible to a toll discount scheme (on the same basis as received by residents of Thurrock and Dartford for the Dartford Crossing)."

We will keep you updated on this, but please note Havering Council have set up the following dedicated email address for any correspondence on The Lower Thames Crossing proposals. itcadmin@haverling.gov.uk

Residents can also sign up for the official Lower Thames Crossing Planning Inspectorate updates - see link below. This will ensure that the Planning Inspectorate are aware of the level of interest in this project, and allow you to be amongst the first to find out any updates directly from the Planning Inspectorate as things progress.

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/lower-thames-crossing/>

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The pavement repair that didn't happen

Over the last few months there appears to be slippage in the timeframe given to undertake road and pavement repairs. When the Council confirm a repair is required, they advise the works will be undertaken within 28 days. However Councillors and residents are finding that some locations are missing this deadline requiring a number of repeat requests. If you find the awaited repair has gone beyond the 28 days, contact your ward Councillor who will follow up on your behalf.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Transport for London (TfL)

During lock-down, those who could work from home were strongly encouraged to do so, and museums and other London attractions were closed. The sharp drop in people using

public transport severely affected TfL's revenue. Every year, all London Boroughs pay a levy to TfL, and then bid for this money for their street schemes. TfL has been lobbying the Government for extra funding to meet its budget shortfall due to the reduced revenue. Whilst some Government funding has been provided, this has not been adequate to meet all of the spending plans. We have been requesting a number of schemes to be considered for Upminster and Cranham, but bids have not been agreed due to funding gaps. This has included several schemes involving road surface repairs, speeding issues, and the changing of the zebra crossing to a pelican crossing by Coopers' Coborn School, St Mary's Lane. We have requested that these schemes be carried out when funding is made available. Please rest assured that we will continue to push to make certain that Upminster and Cranham receive its fair share of funding.

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

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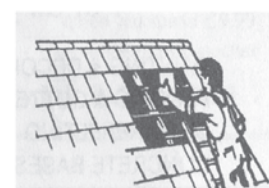
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10 positive things that happened in 2020

It goes without saying last year was incredibly difficult for many and the harsh reality is definitely not to be minimized. Just doing your best to get through it was more than enough. However, perhaps the bleak daily news updates stopped you from seeing some of the positivity buried beneath. While 2020 was especially hard, a few glasses of lemonade could be made from the lemons.

1. We finally recognised health care workers as the heroes they are.
2. Marcus Rashford provided over 4.2 million meals for families.
3. Harvey Weinstein went to prison.
4. Crayola launched a box of crayons with diverse skin colours for children to "accurately colour themselves into the world".
5. Jogger and comfy t-shirts became very acceptable fashion choices.
6. A couple in Cambridgeshire were reunited with their pet cat, Biscuit, who had gone missing for 3 years.
7. Drive-in cinemas made a comeback.
8. The Savoy gave people the

chance to nominate someone who was notably helpful last year to win a special Savoy experience over the festive season.

9. A 4-day bank holiday weekend in June 2022 was announced for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
10. Joe Wicks raised over £2million for Children In Need.

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Friends of Parklands

It is surprising the number of people who do not know of Parklands, our natural park, who's main entrance, with small car-park, is in Park Farm Road, with a pedestrian entrance in Corbets Tey Road, all but opposite Foxhall Gardens, Upminster.

Enter Parklands, and you feel as if you are in a tranquil oasis, and have left the world behind, perfect for dog walkers, bird watchers and people who just like peace and solitude. With its recently restored 18th century bridge, it has its historic interest too.

The park has an active Friends of Parklands. If you are interested in joining, please contact the secretary, lindahawthorn@hotmail.co.uk.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Poppy appeal update

This year's Poppy Appeal was uniquely challenging due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Upminster and Cranham Royal British Legion are therefore thrilled to announce that to date £10,811 has been collected. We wish to thank local schools, businesses, churches, community groups and the public for their tremendous support. We are also grateful to everyone who visited our 'Poppy Shop' at our club (316 St Mary's Lane) which we hope will be a permanent feature in future years. We also wish to record our appreciation to our Poppy Appeal Organisers, Barry Winfield and Paul Hyde, for all their hard work.

Remembrance Sunday

Due to the pandemic, only a limited act of remembrance was possible at Upminster War Memorial. We are very grateful to St Laurence Church, the local police and volunteer stewards who enabled the event to take place safely. We are also very aware that many people were unable to join us and wish to thank all those who took part from home in an act of Remembrance and by observing the Two Minute Silence.

The Legion's work continues throughout the year, so please continue to support our vital work

with veterans, those currently serving, and their families.

Upminster & Cranham Royal British Legion

upminsterrbl@aol.com

Website: <http://branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/upminster>

Upminster 'speeding' update

One of the priorities agreed by the Upminster ward panel has been speeding. There are several roads where this causes concern, and on 30th November I went out with two PCSOs and the speed gun purchased by Upminster & Cranham Residents' Association a few years ago, to check on speed in Corbets Tey Road, between Little Gaynes Lane and Cranston Park Ave. We chose school run time between 3.05 and 3.45pm. In that time 73 vehicles were checked travelling towards Upminster, with an average speed of 28 mph, although 4 were in excess of 30mph. In the opposite direction a total of 27 vehicles were checked with an average speed of 27 mph, with one in excess of the limit. This was a small sample in wet weather, however the presence of officers in high viz jackets seemed to get drivers to reduce speed. I am grateful to Rian and Joanne, who have indicated more checks will be undertaken as resources allow.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

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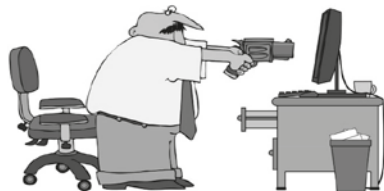
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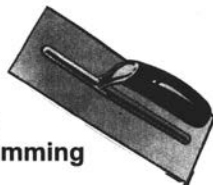
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Havering Singing for the Brain

Havering 'Singing for the Brain' groups have been a social lifeline for hundreds of people since they began in 2012. The volunteers, carers, ex-carers and music leaders collaborate to run the sessions, relying on donations to pay for the venues, refreshments and musicians. The sessions are lively, and there is always a party atmosphere. Musicians lead the sing-along, sometimes with percussion and song sheets, sometimes with guitar or backing tracks. It's free and easy - you can get up on the dance floor or sit back and listen with a cup of tea and a home-made cake.

Over the years the groups have become like a big extended family, and many other outings and social events are coordinated and advertised at the sessions. Expertise is shared and good word of mouth recommendations can be found from people who have been through the dementia-care

journey from start to finish.

The groups currently meet every week in Gidea Park and Rainham (COVID restrictions permitting) but hope to start a group at St. Peter's church in Front Lane, Cranham. For further information e-mail Carol Kensit via carolkensit@hotmail.com or visit their Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/189659992141861/

Saint Francis Hospice

As a New Year begins, we look back and reflect on the most challenging year in Saint Francis Hospice's 36-year history.

Throughout the pandemic, the hospice's care and support teams were working on the frontline and played a vital role in relieving pressure off local hospitals and healthcare services.

The need for experienced end of life care has been greater than ever. There has been a 30% increase in demand for services in the community. The

therapies team have seen a 50% rise in referrals and the charity's confidential helpline for people who may be bereaved, isolated or lonely has also risen by 50%.

But while the hospice found new ways to reach out to even more people, COVID-19 had a devastating impact on its funding with its retail shops having to close and events and community activities cancelled.

Please support the hospice if you can by visiting www.sfh.org.uk.

Weekend disruption to train services

On many weekends throughout the summer and autumn, there was disruption to TfL rail services out of Upminster, mostly to the District Line and the Upminster to Romford line. These planned maintenance works often meant whole or partial line closures for the whole weekend, sometimes with replacement bus services.

It is likely that similar works will

continue periodically. To find out in advance whether there are any planned disruptions, visit the TfL website tfl.gov.uk/tube-dlr-overground/status. For C2C services, visit journeycheck.com/c2c/.

CLlr JOHN TYLER

More from the Resident Association archives ...

Following Linda Hawthorn's article on the formation of the Residents' Association, Derek Jiggins shared the following taken from the Romford Recorder archives ...

Ken Moore became secretary of Upminster RA in April 1942, and found they had 199 members. They made a push to recruit more and he reported at the December meeting a fully paid up membership of 351.

continued on page 9

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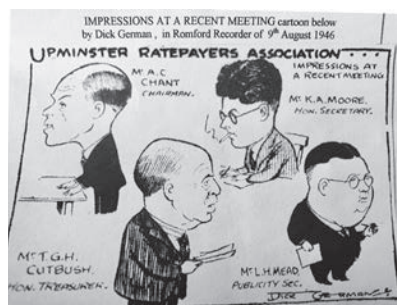
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A few years later, while still secretary, in an effort at fund-raising for the RA he wrote his version of a Christmas pantomime - *Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves*. This was successfully staged at Dury Falls School, Hornchurch, on Saturday, 19th January 1946, with Ken Moore as Ali Baba with the rest of the cast all coming from his departmental drawing-office at the Admiralty in London.



Derek says ... "I was six at the time so have no memory of the show, but Ken Moore went on to become my father-in-law".
We'd love to see any other snippets anyone has to share.

Havering Emergency Assistance Scheme

Havering Council have an emergency fund, the Havering Emergency Assistance Scheme, which can assist people who are in most financial need. This can include help with paying heating bills and providing essential goods and food. There are a number of other ways that the Council can provide assistance and help, which are available via the Havering Helps web page havering.gov.uk/covid19moneyadvice

The same link can be used to apply for the Havering Emergency Assistance Scheme.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Clock House Bowling Club

Despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, the club's

bowling green in Clockhouse Gardens saw plenty of action over the summer. The COVID restrictions meant that the bowling was restricted to contests between club members respecting social distancing, rather than competitive matches against other clubs. Nevertheless over 70 members participated over the summer. The club is already planning for a normal season next summer and planning an open day in May, in which anyone who would like to try their hand at lawn bowls will be welcome. If you would like to register your interest now, please email our coach, Trevor t.plank@sky.com who will be happy to keep you informed as our plans are finalised.

MIKE LONG, SECRETARY

ACT counter terrorism website

As part of the Home Office Prevent anti-terrorism campaign, a new Action Counters Terrorism

(ACT) website has been launched, to give advice to people who are worried that someone close to them is expressing extreme views or hatred, which could lead them to harming themselves or others.

The website address is actearly.uk/#sel

You can also call the Prevent advice line in confidence on 0800 011 3764. In an emergency, the advice is to dial 999, whilst keeping yourself safe.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Safe cycling routes

Havering Cyclists have produced a guide to quiet routes, using less busy roads, to encourage both cyclists and walkers to get out and about. During the summer months there was a noticeable increase in cycling around our streets. Although the weather now is less attractive, it is still something that can be enjoyed. A list of routes together with maps can be found at www.haveringcyclists.org/quiet-routes

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If you would like to speak to a member of our Pastoral Team please call **0789 5512480** and we will get back to you.

To speak to our Vicar, The Rev Ken Wylie, or for general enquiries please contact us at: St Andrew's Church, 222 High Street, Hornchurch, Essex, RM12 6QP

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Upminster based Shroff Accountancy merge with Top 15 accountants and business advisers, Haines Watts



With effect from 1 December

Upminster based accounting firm Shroff Accountancy will join forces with Hornchurch based Haines Watts and trade under the Haines Watts name.

This move further solidifies Haines Watts' presence in Essex and sees the firm continue with its growth strategy and ambition to become the premier business advisers to SME businesses owners in the region.

Matthew Thorpe, Managing Partner of Haines Watts Hornchurch comments "I'm delighted to welcome the

team and clients from Shroff Accountancy to the Haines Watts family. Both firms share a passion for supporting aspirational business owners. Through a combination of wide ranging expertise and a deep understanding of business owners we are able to offer a compelling proposition to both the owners trying to rebuild in the current climate and those who have been able to exploit new opportunities."

You can meet the team and see their latest insights at www.hwca.com/accountants-hornchurch

Havering Association for People with Disabilities "HAD"

Following the national lockdown in March 2020, we continued to provide virtual IT sessions, weekly group calls and telephone advice and created a new phone buddy project. Our clients amazed us, not only with the support they

continued on page 13

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With careful planning and adherence to Government advice, we opened our doors once again to our clients in August, and started to host regular 'Catch Up & Cuppa' Peer Support sessions. Just as we thought we were beginning to get back to some normality, on 5th November the restrictions changed, and we were again faced with the decision to move to virtual services. We had regular sessions on Zoom including pub club, bingo and quizzes. We had telephone buddies, and made plans for a counselling project and socially distanced doorstep wellbeing checks.

HAD are extremely proud of how we continued to maintain a high level of support throughout the pandemic. If you would like to get involved with anything, or even just to have a chat, please call the HAD office, which is manned everyday on 01708 476554 or email admin@hadhavering.co.uk

CHERYL CABLE, PROJECT LEAD

The City and the Countryside

As someone who has recently moved to Upminster, I have been spending many a weekend exploring the town and all it has to offer.

One thing that has really struck me is how wonderfully located Upminster is. It's an easy 25 minute trip into Fenchurch Street, with a world of shopping, theatres and entertainment. If you fancy going further afield, the District line can take you all the way to Wimbledon.

Equally, we are so lucky to have the countryside right on our doorstep. The Upminster Parklands is a wonderful way to spend a weekend, with beautiful scenery and lots of wildlife including horses and ducks. We also have our very own farms nearby, and a fruit and vegetable shop where you can get your weekly produce. I am yet to explore Bonnets Wood, but to have the option to walk to some lovely woodlands is an absolute luxury.

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Having the option of both the countryside and the city means that Upminster truly caters for all. I hope you have all had the fun I have had exploring Upminster!

HANNAH JONES

A new Young Astronomers' club



Havering Astronomical Society are launching a new Young Astronomers' section. Initially with

online meetings, but will move to in person sessions once safe to do so. Meetings to be held regularly on the 4th Thursday of each month, with the first on Thursday 28th January at 7pm. Ages 8-16 are welcome to join.

If your children have ever wondered about the night sky, black holes, astronauts or anything space related, this is the place to find answers and spark their curiosity. Meetings will be fun and inclusive, with the opportunity to carry out observing

in the future. For details or to register an interest please visit the website:

havaastro.co.uk or email: enquiries@havaastro.co.uk

Hoppy Hall car park

We have received many complaints over both payment machines in the car park being continuously out of action. See below one of the comments received following a visit to Hoppy Hall car park.

Please note we have regularly taken this up with the Council and have found this extremely frustrating. The Council have apologised and say the machines have been vandalised and they are in contact with the manufacturers. We will continue to pursue this.

"I could not get parked in one of the bays. Why are the black covers still over the machines and you can only pay by phone?"

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continued on page 15

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few weeks now. There were hardly any cars in the car park. Why don't they use their common sense and stop causing inconvenience to people and start helping instead of causing unnecessary aggravation in this terrible time we are all having."

Cllr RON OWE

Think before you litter!

The planet Earth is our home. We need to look after it for our future. We cannot destroy this Earth. Where will we live? Climate change for example, is melting the ice caps in the Arctic and the Antarctic making life there unsustainable, having no place to call home and loss of food.

Here in Upminster we have litter all over the parks and streets making it unhygienic for everybody. Also, it is dangerous for the wildlife, especially disposable face masks, gloves and plastic bottles that I have personally seen when I go out. Please take your packaging home

with you and put it in your house bin. So, please look after our planet.

ZOE PITT,

year 6, Upminster Junior School

What is the real cost of dog ownership?

During the first and second lockdown periods we saw a surge in the number of people buying a puppy. There have been a few unscrupulous breeders who have taken advantage of this increased demand and the purchase price of pedigree pups and cross breeds has in some cases tripled. But a survey of 1,000 new dog owners by Tailwise, a puppy /breeder matching service, found that almost half had not planned a monthly budget before buying a puppy. Of those that did the average was £90/month which is around half the actual monthly cost of keeping a dog.

Additional costs after the purchase include food, leads, harnesses, toys and beds and

also pet insurance or vet bills. If your puppy should become ill and you have concerns regarding paying for its treatment, please speak with your vet. We will be more than happy to try to help your pet while trying to keep within your budget. The benefits of dog ownership are well known, however, remember once you purchase your pet its health and welfare are your responsibility for the rest of its life.

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Update from Upminster Cricket Club

With lockdown in place when the season was due to start in April, training for the club's junior players moved on-line, as ten weeks of Zoom coaching sessions took place six nights each week. The club also organised two on-line social events which raised over £15,000, a total which was split between the club and local NHS charities. The club's

committee were overwhelmed with the support of members and friends that helped raise such an amazing sum.

Outdoor cricket began in mid-July with the senior sides enjoying excellent seasons. The junior teams also crammed more than 60 games into a ten week season, with over 200 young players representing the club. The U9s crowned the season on the final weekend by winning the Metropolitan Essex District Cup, for the second time in three years.

On Sundays, the intraclub Windmill Whack T20 competition took place for the fifth year, and included a ladies version for the first time.

The club is hugely grateful for the ongoing support of its sponsors, many of whom have been partners of the club for a long time. 2020 has been a strange and trying time, but the spirit that the whole of the Upminster and Cranham community has shown has been evident within the club and means we look forward with hope and confidence to 2021.

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Pinney Talfourd Christmas Card Competition

Pinney Talfourd teamed up with Corbets Tey School again for their 'Design a Christmas Card 2020' competition. Children from all years designed cards judged by Pinney Talfourd and used to create the Christmas card sent to clients and contacts.

There were two winners in 2020, Yusuf of Kiwi class designed the snowman featured on the front page, and Kai of Palm class designed the robins featured on the back cover. Both received the winner's prize at a special assembly in school. Sophie of Mulberry class was the runner up with her reindeer design and she received the prize donated by The Bulletin. Pinney Talfourd also provided runner up prizes for the children whose card was judged to be best in each class so there were lots of winners in the end.

Client Services Partner, Catherine Polli, said "The children's designs are always fantastic to see and despite the challenges presented to us this year in light of the ongoing pandemic, the designs we received were no exception. Thank you to everyone at the school for their time and effort in these difficult times - we are so grateful that we were able to keep this tradition going. We were also delighted that The Bulletin was involved again this year to help make it a real community project."



NHS Retirement Fellowship

The NHS retirement fellowship is a national charity, set up in 1978 as a social, leisure, educational and welfare organisation for NHS staff. Today the Fellowship comprises a much wider membership from the health and social care sector, including partners. Membership can be postal or branch. There are 2 local branches: Barking Havering and Brentwood and Basildon and Thurrock, and from now to the end of March 2021, retirees can join us, free of charge, as potential Fellowship members.

For further details of the charity, please visit www.nhsrf.org.uk or contact Vic Griffiths National Vice President at victorgriffiths@btinternet.com or telephone **01708 228911**.

Restoration of Upminster Windmill

The cap and sails of Upminster Windmill are turning again. Their re-installation at the top of the smock tower on 30 November was witnessed by many local residents and thousands more via a webcam, especially installed to ensure the spectacle could be viewed despite the national lockdown.

The cap and sails had been removed in 2016 as the first stage of a restoration funded by National Lottery Heritage Fund and Veolia Havering Riverside Maintenance Trust. This followed a partnership agreement between the London Borough of Havering and the Friends of Upminster Windmill, who have jointly managed the project.

A renowned Dutch millwright, Willem Dijkstra, was awarded the contract. The task was to repair the grade 2* listed building, which had been classified as at risk and in poor condition by Historic England, and to restore it to working order.

The external repairs are now complete. The millwright is still to replace the concrete floor with a wooden one to the original design



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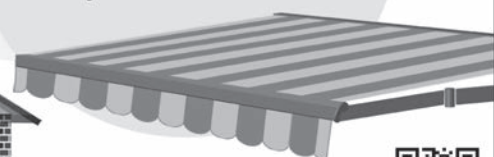
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Well done, it really looks great.



Funding for Armed Forces Day events

Grants of up to £10,000 are
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Armed Forces Day events across
the UK. The Ministry of Defence
is providing funding for events
such as tea parties, parades, big
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Applications can be made up
until 1 March 2021. To apply for
this grant, applicants must first
register their event on the Armed
Forces Day Registration web page.

**[www.armedforcesday.org.uk/
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CLLR JOHN TYLER

Public access defibrillators - thank you

In the December Bulletin we
published a thank you from the
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Cllr Linda Van den Hende – profile

Apart from a very short break, Linda has been a Residents' Association Councillor since 2006. Linda has served on various Council committees and was Mayor of Havering for 2017/18. A retired HR Director in both Local Government and the Metropolitan Police, she has also been a magistrate and is a member of the Upminster Police Ward Panel. Linda is a school governor, Vice Chair of Havering's Stop and Search Community Monitoring



Group, a Regional Peer for the Local Government Association and the Chair of the Patient Partnership Council for BHRUT. She is also a trustee of both 'First Step' and 'Havering Volunteer Centre' charities, with her fundraising activities including abseiling and parachuting.

Lighting up our Community

We received a number of comments on the many homes that displayed Christmas lights. Many local businesses also had great displays ... including Roomes Stores and Filati men's outfitters in Station Road to name just a few. Osteria restaurant in Corbets Tey Road had a huge tree wonderfully decorated in its outside area. Well done and thanks to all for making Upminster and Cranham look so festive.

Christmas Tree with a difference

The Cranham Friends Association would like to thank the Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association for their donation of two Christmas trees, one for Avon Road and the other for Cranham

Village.

This year we were delighted to join Upminster Methodist Church in their Christmas tree festival with a difference, celebrating the monumental work of our NHS, especially during this challenging year. Adorned in rainbow colour baubles, the two trees were part of the Christmas tree trail across Cranham and Upminster, bringing a bit of happiness at the end of a difficult year for many.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Upminster Probus Club

The Upminster Probus Club meets on the last Wednesday of every month (COVID restrictions permitting) at The Cranleigh, Station Lane, Hornchurch at 11.30am for a 12 noon lunch. After lunch, they are entertained by an outside guest speaker.

New member enquiries may be sent to their Secretary, Barry Walsh via e-mail at secretary@upminsterprobus.com, by telephone 01708 703783 or through the website www.upminsterprobus.com. On the website you will find the lunch list and all the planned speakers for the coming year.

AGM of the Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association

Given that the restrictions on large gatherings indoors are likely to be in place for some time, we will not be able to hold our AGM this year. All officers elected at the 2020 AGM have agreed to continue in their roles for a further year. The Chairman's and Treasurer's Reports, which are normally presented at the AGM will be placed on the Association's website during February (details will be given in the February Bulletin). If you have any comments on this, or if there is anything you would like covered in the Chairman's report, please email Chris Wilkins (wilkins@e-account.fsnet.co.uk) or phone him on 07960 059195.

MIKE LONG, SECRETARY

Hornchurch Football Club

Please note the following home fixtures this month at The Stadium, Bridge Avenue. Tuesday 12th against Leatherhead, kick off

continued on page 22



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ASSOCIATION COUNCILLORS

Upminster Ward	Cranham Ward
Linda Hawthorn 01708 225451  lindahawthorn@hotmail.co.uk	Gillian Ford 01708 641317  councillorgillian.ford@havering.gov.uk
Ron Ower 07721 780372  CouncillorRon.Ower@havering.gov.uk	Linda Van den Hende 01708 223761  lindavandenhende@btinternet.com
Chris Wilkins 07960 059195  CouncillorChristopher.Wilkins@havering.gov.uk	John Tyler 07982 962925  JohnTylerUCResidents@outlook.com

ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

Commercial Advertising Martin Flower 07785 244212 bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk	
Upminster Organiser Chris Wilkins 07960 059 195 wilkinschristopher7@gmail.com	Cranham Organiser & Residents' Association Website John Tyler (07982 962925) www.ucra.co.uk

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7.45pm. Tuesday 19th against Enfield Town, kick off 7.45pm. Saturday 23rd against Folkestone Invicta, kick off 3pm. Saturday 6th February against Bowers and Pitsea, kick off 3pm.

Please see their web site for further details.

The Upminster & District Horticultural Society

Wishing our members a Happy and Healthy New Year.

We are looking forward to welcoming you back to this year's series of lectures and coach outings. Our first lecture will be on Tuesday, 9th March 2021. Lois Amos will be telling us all about Havering's Horticultural History. An excellent speaker for our first long awaited lecture.

Also we have our Spring Lunch later in the month which replaces the cancelled lunch in December. Until then keep safe and healthy.

For more information visit www.upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk

UCRA Coach Trips 2021

Our proposed outings for 2021 are proving very popular, and with very good reason! We have some new destinations and old favourites so secure your places and give yourself time to get excited. Our card payment facility will allow quick and easy payments (and trouble free refunds if the trip is cancelled), so pay and reserve your preferred seats with complete confidence.

- **LONG MELFORD & BURY ST EDMUNDS**, Saturday 17th April - £17
- **SNAPE MALTINGS & SOUTHWOLD**, Saturday 15th May - £17.50
- **FAVERSHAM / WHITSTABLE**, Saturday 12th June
- **COUNTRYFILE LIVE AT WINDSOR GREAT PARK**, Saturday 21st August
- **SALUTE TO THE 40s AT CHATHAM DOCK YARD**, Saturday 18th September
- **BROADSTAIRS**, October, date TBC
- **CLASSICAL SPECTACULAR AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL**, November, date TBC

- **THURSFORD CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR UPDATE - NEW DATE FOR 2021** Thursday, 16th December

Please contact Gina Savill-Turner on 07958 006503 or 01708 228270
 Email gina.savill-turner@email.com

Joan Carroll on 07789 956399
 Email joancarroll66@gmail.com

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Local Cycling

Whist the current cold weather might make cycling a little less pleasant, there are still members of the Hornchurch Cycle Club out riding on a Saturday morning to keep fit and to socialise with other keen cyclists. If you have an interest in cycling or would like to get fit, please come along on a Saturday morning at 8.00am. We arrange COVID safe (6 riders max) guided rides for beginners, social and advanced riders over a variety of routes around our local area

Havering Astronomical Society

would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and invite you to join our continuing online calendar of events. **Wednesday 20 January, 7.15 for 7.30pm:** the Havering Astronomical Society will host an online talk by Prof Alan Fitzsimmons, Professor of Astronomy at Queen's University Belfast. His talk, entitled 'Understanding Near-Earth Objects and Planetary Defence', will focus on how we discover and track Near-Earth Objects (asteroids and comets); impact probabilities with Earth and how we mitigate these risks. Further details from Liz on **07706 885948**; enquiries@havaastro.co.uk

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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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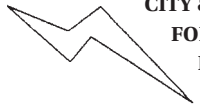
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