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UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Road to Wembley

Congratulations must go to our local football club *Hornchurch FC* who will be playing Hereford for The FA Trophy sponsored by Buildbase at Wembley on Saturday, 22nd May. This is a fantastic achievement.

The "Urchins" beat Dulwich Hamlet last December, Kings Lynn in January then Maidstone followed by a trip to Darlington where the home team scored 1 goal and Hornchurch scored 2. This resulted in another away visit, this time to Notts County where at full time the score was 3-3 and after penalties Hornchurch beat them 5-4. Wonderful. Good luck to the "Urchins".



Havering Council Elections in May 2022

The next Havering Council Elections are due to be held in May 2022. Anyone who has been a member of the Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association for at least two years may be nominated as a proposed candidate for either the Cranham or Upminster ward. Nominations must be sent in writing to Mike Long, the Hon. Secretary, using the official nomination form by 31st May 2021. Anyone interested in standing should contact the Secretary, Mike Long (mike. long1@btinternet.com), who will supply the necessary nomination form and other material.

Subscription Collection Co-ordinator

Cranham Computer Centre 01708-250296

The Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association are grateful to the many volunteers who help us out every month in various ways. One of the important roles is that of Subscription Co-ordinator, receiving quantities of money from our collectors and keeping records of subscribers.

We are currently seeking a new co-ordinator for the Cranham area (although the person would not need to live in Cranham). No experience is necessary, but the ability to fill out a pre-formatted spreadsheet would be an advantage.

For further information please contact *Cllr John Tyler* on **07982 962 925** or via *JohnTylerUCResidents@outlook.com*.

Parking Machines

Your Upminster Resident Councillors have been chasing the Council for some time on the high number of "out of action parking machines" in Upminster. Please see below reply from the Council:

"Thank you for your email regarding parking meters in Upminster.

We are aware of a number of machines currently defective across the borough which are unable to be repaired as they require new parts that we are unable to obtain due to the age of the machines. Manufacturers of our other newer machines, as with most non-essential services, are working with only limited engineers, in these instances we will continue to chase them to undertake the repair at the earliest opportunity.

We are aware of five machines in Upminster (Wilson Close (Aldi) car park x1, Branfill Road, Corbets Tey Road x1, Corbets Tey

continued on page 2





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lindahawthorn@hotmail.co.uk

Ron Ower 07721 780372



CouncillorRon.Ower@havering.gov.uk

Chris Wilkins 07960 059195



CouncillorChristopher.Wilkins@havering.gov.uk

Cranham Ward

Gillian Ford 01708 641317



councillorgillian.ford@havering.gov.uk

Linda Van den Hende 01708 223761



lindavandenhende@btinternet.com

John Tyler 07982 962925



JohnTylerUCResidents@outlook.com

ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

Commercial Advertising Martin Flower 07785 244212 bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk

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(Hoppy Hall) car park x2) are presently inoperable. The two machines in Corbets Tey (Hoppy Hall) car park are inoperable due to substantial damage to the machines caused by vandalism. An order with the manufacturers has been raised for an engineer to repair, but as explained above they are operating with limited

As with all pay and display parking locations, if no machines are operable at the location then Civil Enforcement Officers will not issue a Penalty Charge Notice for parking without displaying a ticket. We encourage all users, when trying to park where a machine is inoperable to the car parks team and report this on 01708 432787 option 2.

engineers.

We are waiting for new machines to be delivered, however a final decision has not yet been made as to where all the new machines will be placed around the borough, except for where they will replace the very old machines."

We felt it was essential you should see this information.

Cllrs LINDA HAWTHORN, RON OWER and CHRIS WILKINS

Beware of scam texts

The number of different ways that fraudsters try to con people out of money or personal information, increases all of the time. Whilst we could not hope to list all of them, one that has been in circulation lately involves the potential victim receiving a text message on their mobile phone, purporting to come from Royal Mail. The message says that a parcel is due for delivery and a fee must be paid, otherwise the parcel will be returned to sender. The message contains a link, in order to pay the fee.

Royal Mail have confirmed that

continued on page 3

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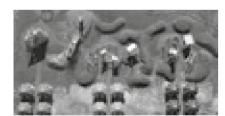
this is a scam, and that if someone clicks the link they are likely to be taken to a realistic looking website, where they will be asked to give private information, including bank details.

As always, please be vigilant to all types of scams. For further information on the most common types of fraud, or if you have (or think you may have) been the victim of fraud, you should report it on the Action Fraud website - ww.actionfraud.police.uk/ or by ringing 0300 123 2040.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Stubbers

It was good to see Stubbers re-opening at Easter after being forced to shut due to the COVID situation. During lock-down, they used the time to make several improvements and create many new attractions, which we were



invited along to see.

We were very impressed by what we saw, a new adventure playground, seating pods, walks and pavements, a welcome centre – and we were very honoured to cut the ribbon to the adventure playground, watched by the Board of Stubbers and other visitors.

During our walk round afterwards we saw yet another new facility - the Cave - we will not give away its secrets. Please take your children to explore - we are sure they will not be disappointed.

This is a fantastic place on our

doorstep - please visit, and see for yourselves.

Cllrs CHRIS WILKINS AND

LINDA HAWTHORN

Hall Lane Potholes

For a number of months Cranham Ward Councillors have been reporting a series of significant potholes along Hall Lane. The worst section being from Upminster Golf Club to the A127. A number have been filled but new ones have appeared, especially during the



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winter months. These have been reported regularly. We have asked for serious consideration to be given to resurface the road as patching is temporary and very quickly the problem re-appears adding to the cost. We have been told resurfacing will be considered when resources allow. We will continue to press for this and keep you updated.

CRANHAM WARD COUNCILLORS

Schools

Following the return to school of all pupils, some concern has been expressed regarding large numbers of pupils in and around Upminster Town Centre. Schools are continuing to stagger start/ finish times to assist with the safety of pupils and residents. Secondary pupils in particular are advised not to congregate. An additional issue of dangerous on-street parking has also been reported. Coopers School no longer allows parents to use the car park to drop off and pick up pupils due to some dangerous practices which were putting pupils at risk. Councillors have

requested increased parking patrols in areas around schools to combat the dangerous parking problem.

> Cllrs CHRIS WILKINS AND LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Horrible consequence of Lockdown...

As I look out of the windows of my home in Argyle Gardens, overlooking the farm field at the top of Park Drive, I see people walking aimlessly all over the farm field, treading down the growing crop. This now happens every day, people of all ages, some dog walkers, some not, strangely this has only happened in recent times. There are footpaths around the field, but many people simply walk all over the field, children play in the field, and unfortunately I notice that many dog owners walking over the field, feel it unnecessary to pick up their dog's mess, I actually wonder whether that is one reason that those dog owners choose to walk out into the field. Surely people realise they are walking through

continued on page 5

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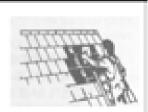
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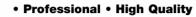
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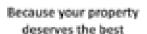


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and destroying a growing crop, in which the farmer has invested time, money and effort, in planting and continuing to care for. Can we all please respect the countryside code and keep to the footpaths. Perhaps those good people who lovingly care for Cranham Marshes could consider erecting notices at the entrances to the fields, instructing people to keep to the footpaths.

RESIDENT OF ARGYLE GARDENS

Double Lock Your Doors

Please note the following message we have received from the local Police.

"Please make sure you double lock UPVC front doors by lifting the handle and locking it with a key. Just lifting the handle makes it easy for burglars to get in. If you have a wooden door 2 locks are advised, or more if you prefer. Also make sure the porch door is locked if you have one. We send the same message out but residents are still not locking their doors properly and burglars will try and get in."

Cranston Park Lawn Tennis Club awarded the prestigious title of Essex Club of the Year

Cranston Park, tucked away in the heart of Upminster, is one of the biggest clubs in the area, and has long been a home to emerging tennis talent and social members alike. Cranston Park has eight floodlit courts, a club house, extensive bar and lounge areas, a function hall and a big lawn, which often plays host to social events and Summer BBOs.

Essex Tennis have awarded Cranston Park the accolade, for its ongoing commitment to tennis, unparalleled facilities and nurturing an inclusive community atmosphere. Cranston Park has always created a warm and friendly environment, where everyone is welcome to try tennis. As well as offering a 'buddy' scheme to new joiners to help them feel at ease, Cranston



Park offers a range of coaching options led by Head Coach, Lee Duncan; from mini tennis for as young as 2 years old, squads for young players up to 18 years old and transition tennis for adults both experienced and completely new to the sport.

Cranston Park also has an impressive silverware cupboard, with over 20 adult and junior teams playing competitively across the County.

Keeping a healthy body and mind is more important now than ever before; so whether you are looking for a way to meet new people, embrace a hobby or spend some quality time with family; then head to Cranston Park Tennis Club today.

Please visit our Website www.cranstonpark.co.uk

DAVE FREEMAN

Dog Poo

It's great to see so many people out and about with their dogs, especially as the weather improves. What is not so good are the inconsiderate dog owners who simply leave the dog poo

where it falls or, after bagging it, still leave it on the ground. Unfortunately there are no dog poo fairies who come out at night to collect it!

A number of places in Cranham have been drawn to my attention, Limerick Gardens, Moor Lane and Kings Gardens and I am sure there are others. Those roads that have grass areas along the roadside appear to be popular dumping grounds. Another popular place is to hang it on tree branches. Dog poo is both unsightly and potentially a health hazard. It can be put into litter bins or preferably taken away and disposed of as household waste. Please help to keep our area clean and tidy.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Havering Antiques & Vintage Collectors Club

We are hopeful that we can resume in July with speakers from Bargain Hunt and Antiques

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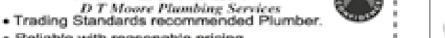


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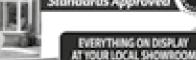




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Queen's Theatre Hornchurch re-opens its doors in late May

Queen's Theatre is delighted to be able to re-open its doors to the public on **Monday**, **17th May 2021** (subject to the Government's Roadmap).

The new season of produced work gets underway with a new production of **Tim Firth's** hit comedy *Neville's Island,* from **20th May – 12th June and 22nd June – 3rd July 2021** (socially distanced seating will remain in place at least throughout May and June).

From 30th July - 21st August

2021, the main stage will be filled with all the best of Essex pop throughout the heart of the summer as the postponed premiere of *Love Letters,* a brandnew jukebox musical, promises audiences an unmissable post Lockdown treat.

In early autumn 2021, Romford-born David Eldridge (In Basildon) returns home with a 'gorgeous new play' (Independent) that takes a touching look at the first fragile moments of risking your heart and taking a chance. This tender and funny critically acclaimed smash hit received its world premiere at the National **Theatre** before transferring to the West End. **Beginning** is being revived and relaunched by Queen's Theatre from 3rd - 18th September 2021.

Details of the rest of the Autumn 2021 season of productions, including a newly commissioned play, will be unveiled in late June 2021. Tickets are also on sale for our traditional family pantomime *Aladdin* returning to Hornchurch this Christmas.

The popular community



Café will re-open, and the Theatre's impressive learning and participation programme continues with a range of online and in-person activities.

For full details about all the shows mentioned, visit *queens-theatre. co.uk/whats-on* or call the Box Office on *01708 44333*3.

Havering's Residents Associations

Did you know that the Upminster and Cranham Resident Association's elected councillors are members of a wider organisation of similar groups across Havering?

Called Havering's Residents
Associations, and also known
as the H.R.A, members came
together in 2019 with the
intention of working together to
ensure local people are properly
represented within Havering
Council. Elected councillors
from the various H.R.A member
associations do not have a 'whip'
system, unlike national political
parties' councillors, and are
therefore free to represent their

electorate without being told how to vote.

For further information on the H.R.A, including how to join and stand as a Resident Association candidate at the next local elections in 2022, visit the H.R.A website – www.haveringra.org/.

Breast Cancer Awareness



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the early detection of Breast Cancer since 1976 and is the only organization enabling women to seek 1-2-1 advice with a specialist nurse without a GP referral.

1-2-1, online or by telephone, women can talk to nurses about their breasts, what is normal for them (not everyone is the same), what changes to look for and what to do if you find something.

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Our Residents' Association websites

You may not know but there are actually two editions of The Bulletin published each month, one for Cranham and Upminster and one for Emerson Park. We also have two websites covering the same areas.

The Residents' Association of Emerson Park website is www.raep.org.

The Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association website is www.ucra.co.uk.

As well as often being the first place to see stories on issues affecting our local areas, the websites cover community events, roadworks and pre-planned travel information. There are also links to back copies of The Bulletin and you can leave messages for us via the 'Contact' page on each site. Please come and take a look!

Hereford FC

Elsewhere in The Bulletin we have written on the fantastic

news that our local football team Hornchurch travel to Wemblev. Their opponents, Hereford FC, were formed as a phoenix club in 2014, after Hereford United had gone out of business. They play in the National League North. Nicknames - "The Whites" after their predominantly white kit, and "The Bulls" after The Herefordshire Cattle Breed.

The old club were most famous for their 1972 FA Cup win over top flight Newcastle United, including a 30-yard screamer from Ronnie Radford.

Cllr RON OWER

Clock House Bowling Club Open Days

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sport and attract new members. This event will be overseen by our Club Coach, Trevor Plank, who has been selected as the Essex County Coach. Anyone interested in taking up bowling can contact him on essexbowlscoaching@ gmail.com, or just turn up at Clock House Bowling Club anytime between 11am and 4pm on 29th or 30th May.

MIKE LONG

Using your computer as a volunteer

We have recently been told about a way of volunteering that may appeal to people with time on their hands, who are based at home and with access to a computer.

A large number of organisations throughout the world undertake work to assist academic research by entering written records onto computers, to create usable data. An example of this was when the Met Office needed to input rainfall data records from 1677 to 1960, a total of 66,000 pages. They wanted to do this so that they

could analyse rainfall patterns from before the time of the industrial revolution onwards, to help understand our influence on climate change.

To do this, they asked for volunteers on Zooniverse. a website where volunteers undertake the work in what they call 'people-powered research'. 16,000 people came forward and completed the work for them.

Zooniverse have a large number of projects available on subjects as diverse as the arts, science, history, medicine and language. For more information, see their website www.zooniverse.org/.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Adventure Island

Hornchurch District Scouts (charity no. 303699) are selling Adventure Island wristbands at the discounted price of £15. Also available, Southend Sealife Adventure tickets Adult/ Child just £6 each and Adventure Golf tickets £6 for 18 holes. Wristbands expire 31st December

continued on page 11

On Saturday and Sunday 29th & 30th May, Clock House Bowling Club, situated in Clockhouse Gardens Upminster, will open their green from 11am till 4pm each day for a bowling taster. This is in conjunction with Bowls England Big Weekend, a national initiative offering clubs the opportunity to promote our welcoming and socially-distanced

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Ongoing and **New Planned Roadworks**

For the latest updates on local new and planned roadworks visit www.havering.roadworks.org.

Oglethorpe Players Waiting To Murder

Cranham's very own award winning drama group, The Oglethorpe Players have not exactly been patiently waiting to perform their next fantastic night out for audiences both old and new.

A brand new Murder Mystery entitled 'Murder At The Caravan Park' is ready for rehearsals and performance later this year when it is deemed safe to do so.

As usual, the evening will commence with the now hugely popular dramatic, hilarious, home written murder mystery incorporating a pub-style quiz culminating in the headscratching 'WHODUNNIT?'

Who knows what happens when the door is shut against the prying eyes inside parked up Swifts and Bluebirds, awnings stretched out over aluminium tables and chairs? Just what has that chap at the communal tap filling his water container been up to? Does the strutting over- zealous site owner deserve what may come to him? All will be revealed.

The Players will announce performance dates etc asap, meanwhile, if you would like to take up a new hobby, make new friends and join in the fun of putting on a show please contact Gerry Sweeney on 07931 520420 or gerrysweeney@sky.com. On stage, backstage, scenery shifters

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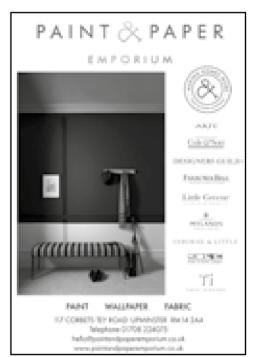
and happy helpers all welcome. If you would like to be our keyboard player to accompany our singers, you're most welcome.

Lower **Thames** Crossing

We have been meeting regularly on Zoom with Council officers re the latest position on the Lower Thames Crossing Planning Application. As we reported previously in The Bulletin, the original application was rejected by the Planning Inspectorate - they had a number of serious concerns on a number of matters.

With this in mind Highways England plan to resubmit an application later this year.

We will keep you up to date on this in The Bulletin. Highways England have confirmed that if it goes ahead it will NOT be a smart motorway, so they plan to include a hard shoulder for any



break downs.

Together with our Cranham ward Resident Association colleagues, we will be meeting with Highways England. If you have any questions feel free to email us.

> CLLRs LINDA HAWTHORN, RON OWER, CHRIS WILKINS

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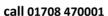
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Although most people pay for their Council Tax by direct debit, via the internet or by phone, we recently received an enquiry asking whether Havering Council still accept payments by cheque. We contacted the Council, who confirmed that for both Council Tax and Garden Waste Collection (green bin) subscriptions, they do accept cheques.

If you pay in this way, please write your Council Tax account number or Green Waste contract number on the back of the cheque. Cheques should be sent to London Borough of Havering, Town Hall, Main Road, Romford RM13BB

For Council Tax payments, they will issue a receipt if requested. For Garden Waste subscriptions, a receipt will not be issued but the subscriber will receive a bin sticker and calendar.

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offers answers to some of these questions with its Tales of the taking place in May and June.

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Cllr JOHN TYLER

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Venues for walks and activities include Thames Chase Forest Centre, Pages Wood, RSPB Rainham Marshes, Thorndon Country Park, Bedfords Park and Eastbrookend Country Park and will be led by experienced walkers who can share local knowledge and will be of differing lengths, difficulties and times to be accessible for all.

To find out more please visit www.landofthefanns.org/ talesofthefanns/ and book via Eventbrite



Essex Wildlife Trust - Spring Events 2021

Monday, 10th May, Pandemic retrospective members' photos and recordings

from the past year. Join in and bring along along your own contributions.

Meetings and talks are held at Hornchurch Library if possible (but numbers may be limited), otherwise via Zoom. To confirm your interest and/or to register call Joy Emerson on **01708 440297** or 07759 869910 (for meetings only). To join in on Zoom, email tonygunton@icloud.com so that we can send you an invite nearer the time.

Saturday, 5th June, a walk in Belhus Woods Country Park for summer flowers, birds and butterflies. Meet at the visitor centre, Romford Road, Aveley at 10:30am. SatNav RM15 4XJ. Originally a deer park and Capability Brown-designed estate, it contains ancient broadleaved woodland and five lakes.

With the uncertainties caused

continued on page 15



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by the pandemic, changes and cancellations are possible. Walks take about 2 hours with an option to continue after lunch. Numbers may be limited, so please make contact beforehand to check either via email, tonygunton@icloud. com or grandadtone@gmail. com or call/message Tony Loveless **07413 649006.** Wear suitable clothing and footwear and bring a packed lunch if needed.

Cashback without a purchase -Correction

On page 15 of the April Bulletin, I wrote an article on a Government proposal for people to be able to request cashback from shops without needing to make a purchase at the same time. It has been pointed out that I may have given the wrong impression regarding whether shops would have the choice to offer this service or not.

I am happy to make it clear that my understanding is that any scheme would be a voluntary

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measure, in the same way that some shops currently offer cashback at the point of purchase and others do not. At present, regulations left over from our membership of the EU make it very difficult for retailers to offer cashback without a purchase, even if they wish to.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Saint Francis **Hospice West Ham United** and former Team

Saint Francis Hospice t-shirts in the club's latest show of supporters were thrilled to see their Hammers heroes wearing t-shirts with the Hospice's trademark orange logo while training before their Premier League match on 21st March against Arsenal and during the

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pre-game warm up at the London Stadium.

While COVID-19 restrictions mean fans are currently unable to attend games in person, the club used its social media platforms and matchday programme to speak out about the Hospice's care and support for the local community in east London and Essex, sharing the experience of a family who were cared for by the Hospice and calling on fans to

A former Team GB swimmer is calling on people to make a splash for their local hospice by taking part in an exciting open water event. Tina Briden, 61, from Romford, has organised the swimming challenge on Saturday, 15th May at the Trifarm in Chelmsford where

people can choose to swim distances of 400m, 800m or 1600m around the lake to raise funds for Saint Francis Hospice. Places are limited and Tina is hoping swimmers will pledge to raise £100 for the hospice. To sign up for the challenge at the Trifarm at Church Road. Chelmsford, CM3 3EJ or for more information, please email Tina at: tinabridensfhcharityswim@ outlook.com

Havering Astronomical Society

are continuing their online speaker program with another interesting talk. Our website www.havastro.co.uk has details of upcoming talks. If you would like to join a meeting please email secretary@havastro.co.uk or call Liz on **07706 885948.**

Wednesday 19th May, 7.15 for 7.30pm

Roger O'Brien - a regular and popular speaker to our club. 'The James Webb Space Telescope' (or JWST) - a discussion of this joint NASA-ESA-CSA enterprise which

continued on page 17

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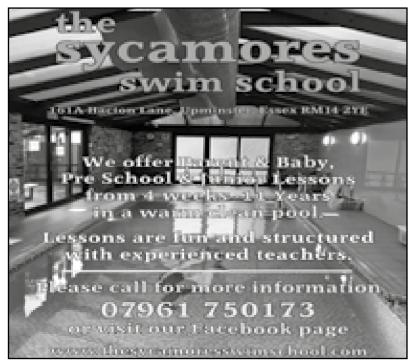
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Our Young Astronomers group launched in January this year and is proving very popular. The age range is between 8-16 with monthly meetings online. In May there will be a talk about the death of stars, what can be seen in the night sky and items of up to date sky news. For more information please check out the Young Astronomers section of our website or email young. astronomers@havastro.co.uk.

Aldi Car Park

We asked the Council who was responsible for cleaning the Aldi car park in Wilson Close. On several occasions there has been considerable rubbish in the car park.

Please note following answer:

"With reference to our conversation earlier this week regarding the cleaning of car parks, ie Aldi, I have been advised that up until 1 April cleaning is the responsibility of the Car Park team. After 1 April it will be the Cleaning Team. In other words, the cleaning of the Aldi car park is our responsibility."

Cllr RON OWER

Bitcoin related scam emails

We're warning the public to be vigilant of unsolicited emails promoting cryptocurrency (Bitcoin) investment opportunities. We've received over 750 reports this week about Bitcoin-related phishing emails that use fake celebrity endorsements to try and lure victims into investment scams. The links in the emails lead to fraudulent websites that are designed to steal your money, as well as personal and financial information.

How you can protect yourself:

- Investment opportunities: Don't be rushed into making an investment. Remember, legitimate organisations will never pressure you into making a transaction on the spot.
- Seek advice first: Speak with a trusted friend or family members and seek independent professional advice before making significant financial decisions.
- FCA register: Use the Financial Conduct Authority's (FCA) register to check if the company is regulated by the FCA. If you deal with a firm (or individual) that isn't regulated, you may not be covered by the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) if things go wrong and you lose your money.
- For more information about how to invest safely, please

visit: https://www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart

• Report suspicious emails: If you have received an email which you're not quite sure about, you can report it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service by forwarding the email to - report@phishing.gov.uk

ACTION FRAUD ALERT

Litter Champions

Many thanks to those who have visited Thames Chase recently and enjoyed the green space, especially those who have taken their litter or picked up litter, keeping it clean and safe for wildlife and all to enjoy.

Parklands

With the COVID rules being relaxed, with six people being able to meet outside, we met with 2 members of the Friends of Parklands and 2 Council officers to walk around Parklands Park at the end of Corbets Tey Road.

Sadly, the very damp spell over the winter months had taken its toll, with bare patches and a notable area where horses had churned up the grass. The area will be reseeded next Autumn.

It was pleasing to see that the grill close to Park Farm Road had been cleared, and the water from the brook was gushing happily though it.

Generally the park is looking good, spring has improved it and hopefully when back to normal, visitors will come and look at this tranquil area, and the newly restored bridge.

Many thanks to the Friends of Parklands group, for the interest they take in their local area.

Cllrs LINDA HAWTHORN and CHRIS WILKINS

Neighbourhood Watch Advice

We recently heard from the local Neighbourhood Watch network giving details of their latest "protect your car" campaign. Most car crimes occur as a result of cars being left unlocked, sometimes as a result on relying on self-locking systems or the thought that thieves will not bother with older cars. Most importantly, please do not keep valuables in your car. Please ensure your car is locked (even in a gated front garden), valuables removed and remember both new and old cars are at risk. For cars with keyless ignition please consider a faraday pouch to store your keys and prevent unauthorised access to your car.

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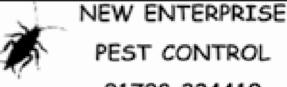
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Your Views on our Local Area

The Local Government Association, to which all elected local councillors are automatically members, recently commissioned a nationwide survey into whether the pandemic has altered the way people think about their local areas and whether it has changed the way communities behave.

The results found that for most people, the last year has reinforced their existing views rather than altered them. For instance, respondents typically said that the best things were people, green spaces, access to amenities, diversity and vibrancy. The worst things were often antisocial behaviour, crime, traffic, potholes and a lack of community feel. Changes in behaviour included more online shopping but also making a point of shopping on the local high street, to support local businesses.

In our local area, some but not all of these things are likely to apply. Whilst we are not conducting a survey, we are always interested to hear your views on our local area. Please phone or e-mail your local contacts - details can be found on page 2 of this Bulletin or use the contact form on our websites - www.ucra.co.uk/ contact-us/or www.raep.org.

Upminster Cricket Club

The Club is now a couple of weeks into the 2021 cricket season and preparing for the start of its league campaign (8th May). Enthusiasm for the game in the local community is very high at the moment, and we have had over 250 junior members and nearly 200 adult members sign up for the summer season, including more than 70 ladies. While some COVID related restrictions understandably remain in place, it is great that cricket is up and running again. Games at

Upminster Park in May include:

May 8th 1st XI v Ilford May 9th Windmill Whack

Competition

May 15th 2nd XI v Billericay May 16th Windmill Whack Competition

May 22nd 1st XI v Woodford

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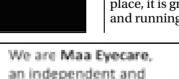
May 23rd 2nd XI v Holtwhites

PAUL MIDDLEMISS

New advances in the treatment of arthritis in dogs

They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks, but veterinary surgeons must be learning continuously throughout their careers. Every year the British **Small Animal Association holds** a congress to enable vets to keep up to date with the latest treatments. This year, of course, it was a virtual event, but I was able to learn more about new ideas for pain relief in dogs with osteoarthritis from the comfort of my sofa. Traditionally pain relief has relied upon the use of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories which can have side effects. There is a new injectable drug available which acts in a different way to these other drugs. I learned about the emotional aspect of pain and how to measure outcomes from our interventions. If you are concerned that your older dog may be showing signs of arthritis (reluctance to climb stairs, stiffness on rising after a rest, lameness) give Lawton and Stoakes a call on 01708 384444 and we will be happy to discuss the options for treatment during an appointment with one of our vets.





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Our Glenn

Back in the March Bulletin, Councillor Linda Hawthorn wrote an article on Glenn Brown our town centre street cleaner, having received a message pointing out what a fantastic job he does in keeping the centre clean.

We all agreed and with this in mind, together with my fellow Resident Councillors Chris Wilkins and Linda Hawthorn, we nominated Glenn for the Council's S.T.A.R awards where there were a number of categories to nominate Council staff.

We are delighted to inform you the Council received over 300 applicants and Glenn Brown was listed as one of the finalists for the "ICARE About Havering Award" as part of the award ceremony.

His certificate is on its way and his name is listed on the Council's intranet site as a finalist. Well done Glenn.

Cllr RON OWER

Clockhouse Gardens

I am pleased to report that the flooding situation has been worked on in Clockhouse Gardens, with the new over-flow pipe working to keep the level of water down.

The Gardens still need a lot of attention, but we will be working hard to achieve some improvements.

We are also checking the flooding issues we have had where the River Ingrebourne burst its banks, and also The Brook ie the stream which serves Parklands. River Agencies need to be involved here.

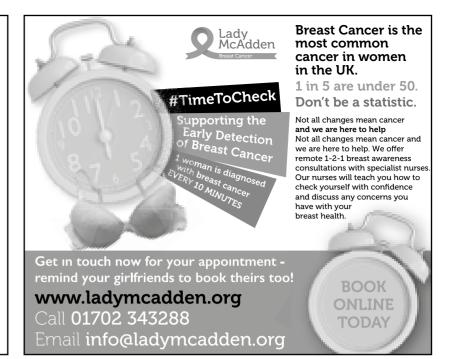
To assist general flooding, the Council are engaging a team to clear the gullies in our roads, which should solve any general flooding.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

Chelmer Road

At the Full Council Meeting of 24th March 2021, I highlighted the delay in tackling parking problems in Chelmer Road, Cranham, during Members' Questions.

householders, in early 2019 Havering Council were asked to conduct a survey of residents, to seek their views on introducing Council officials agreed to do this, but despite numerous chase-up e-mails, nothing has been done. As a result of questioning, the Cabinet Member for Environment agreed to look into the matter. We will



update residents when we have further news.

Stubbers

Upminster & Cranham Resident Association Councillors are delighted that there is a number of exciting new activities at The Stubbers Adventure Centre in Ockendon Road. The Park covers 130 acres and reopened last month. Their contact details can be found on page 4.

Temporary Cllr JOHN TYLER changes to local **Polling Stations**

Havering Council have made changes to the locations of two of the Polling Stations regularly used, for the GLA Elections on 6th May 2021. Both changes are temporary and should return to normal for future elections.

People who normally vote at

continued on page 22

parking issues

Following complaints from further parking restrictions.





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Upminster Junior School will be required to go to Upminster Library instead.

Those who usually go to Branfil Primary School to vote, will now have to attend Gwillcoo Hall, 25/27 Brookdale Avenue, Upminster RM14 2LT. This is the Scout Hall, accessed from an entrance opposite the junction with Boundary Road.

Cranham Community Centre

Over the last year the pandemic has had an impact on all of us, this includes our interaction with others and social activities. Cranham Community Centre in Marlborough Gardens was no exception, having to close its doors to the public and the many groups and organisations that usually provide activities for all age groups. These include dance groups, indoor bowls, Brownies and martial arts.

The additional challenge they have faced is the continued payment of the £17,000 annual rent to Havering Council. This is on top of maintaining the site and security. They were successful in getting a government grant last year, but this did not make any inroads to the rent that is paid quarterly.

They decided to start up a fundraising page, at which point the Hornchurch and Upminster Rotary Club stepped up to the mark making a donation of £500.

On the 17th March, Rotarian Gillian Ford presented the cheque to the Chairman of the Centre, Michelle Grote. The Centre is extremely grateful to the Rotary

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Club and thanks them for their generosity.

Council Weed Control Schedule

Havering Council have announced their road and footway weed control schedule for 2021. Each area is treated four times a year, but exact dates are dependent on weather conditions. The weeds normally die off around three weeks after treatment and should then be cleared away by the regular street cleaning teams.

Both wards should already have had one treatment. Upminster Ward is still scheduled for May, July and September. Cranham Ward is due in June, August and November.

Cllr IOHN TYLER



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