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## UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

### Christmas in Uppminster

As we are preparing for Christmas, due to health and safety and crowd control, there will not be an official light switching ceremony this year at the Bell Corner Christmas tree. However, the lights will be on and we are pleased to inform you that on Thursday, 25th November late afternoon, there will be a range of stalls in Uppminster. Father Christmas has promised to pop in as well.

There will also be the Elf Trail where children have a card stamped at several town centre locations and then claim a gift. Please keep an eye on our website [www.ucra.co.uk](http://www.ucra.co.uk) for further news.

### Lower Thames Crossing consultation

Following on from our article in October's Bulletin, the Uppminster and Cranham Residents' Association (UCRA) submitted its response to the latest consultation for the proposed new Lower Thames Crossing, which closed on 8 September 2021. The consultation received over 2,700 submissions. UCRA raised several points of concern including:

- Increase of HGV traffic during the development.
- Road closures (ie Ockendon Rd close to the bridge over the M25).
- Loss of Green Belt.
- Increase of noise, air and light pollution.
- Increase of flooding.
- Destruction of irreplaceable local heritage.

Highways England state that they are now analysing the responses, before submitting an application for a Development Consent Order, which is unlikely to take place before the New Year. We will, of course, keep readers of both the Bulletin and our website informed of further developments when they happen.

A copy of the full consultation response can be found on our website [www.ucra.co.uk](http://www.ucra.co.uk) clicking on the Lower Thames Crossing link near the top of the main page.



### Havering Residents Association

The Uppminster and Cranham Residents Association are proud to be members of Havering Residents Association - working together on behalf of local people across Havering.

### Subscriptions

Our Councillor John Tyler wrote last month that we have resumed collecting subscriptions - we missed visiting you last year. Subs remain at £2 per household.


Please feel free if you wish to pay for last year when our collector visits you. A huge thank you to all our collectors - you are doing a great job. We will try and see as many households as possible but if you are out please return the envelope to the address on the front. Whilst we hope to have enough advertising income to pay for The Bulletin, we need sufficient funds for our work in the community.

Could you help with collecting the 2021 UCRA annual subscriptions in Uppminster ward? We also need assistance with Bulletin deliveries in Uppminster town centre. If you can help with this, please ring **Chris Wilkins** on **07960 059195**.



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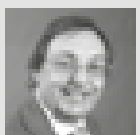
### Upminster Ward

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Ron Ower 07721 780372



CouncillorRon.Ower@havering.gov.uk

Chris Wilkins 07960 059195



CouncillorChristopher.Wilkins@havering.gov.uk

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### Cranham Organiser & Residents' Association Website

John Tyler (07982 962925)  
www.ucra.co.uk

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## Volunteer leaflet deliverers for the HRA

The Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association have been members of Havering Residents Association (HRA), since it was formed in 2019 with the intention of working together on behalf of local people across Havering.

In the run-up to the local elections in May 2022, the HRA will be raising their profile in areas of Havering that have never fielded Residents' Association candidates before. To do this, we will be delivering leaflets on a weekly basis in selected areas of Romford and the north of Havering.

We are presently looking for additional volunteers of any age, to help our friendly delivery team. Delivering, which lasts 1-2 hours, normally takes place weekdays, in the morning or evening, once or twice a week. Volunteers can come along as

many or as few times as they like.

If you would like more information or to go on our list of volunteers, please send your name and contact details to [HaveringRA@gmail.com](mailto:HaveringRA@gmail.com).

## Meet your Upminster Councillors

We are very aware that due to COVID restrictions we have been unable to hold our regular surgeries. Please note we will be holding a surgery on Monday, 8th November unless government instructions change at Cafe Gelato in Corbets Tey Road from 10 to 11am. We are also planning to hold a meeting every three months with a speaker. If you have any thoughts on a speaker let us know. In the meantime, if you do have something to raise with us our contact details are here on page 2.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN,

Cllr RON OWER,

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

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## Upminster weapons sweep

On a very wet September morning, I joined Sgt Sehmbly and a team of 12 police officers/PCSOs, together with StreetWatch, to undertake a routine weapons/drugs sweep from Hornchurch Stadium car park to Hacton Lane, along the Ingrebourne river and surrounding area. There was no specific intelligence to suggest the area was problematic, but there have been previous reports of drug taking in the area so the exercise was precautionary. We checked in undergrowth and around trees. A number of residents walking in the area asked me what we were doing and I was able to inform them it was routine. The police presence was reassuring and some officers engaged with residents and children. I am pleased to say nothing was found which was regarded as a good result. This type of exercise is repeated in other areas from time to time when police resources are available. All part of your Safer Neighbourhoods Team's role.

Cllr LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

## Lock your vehicles

May we remind you not to leave valuables on display in your vehicles please and also ensure they are locked when not in use. Sadly opportunist thieves are out there!

## Informing residents of planning applications

A few months ago, we started publishing Havering Council's Weekly Planning List on our website. We did this because we felt that the Council were not publicising planning applications widely enough, often not informing residents close to the application.

It has been highlighted to us that in a recent application for a small block of flats in Upminster, even homes that would be overlooked by the proposed building were not informed of the application by the Council, potentially denying

householders the chance to submit comments. We have raised this matter on several occasions with the Council's Planning Department, but we are not confident that they will change their current policy.

We would therefore encourage people to take a regular look at the Weekly Planning List on our website - [www.ucra.co.uk](http://www.ucra.co.uk), where you can also view applications for the last eight weeks.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

## Havering in Bloom

We are proud to have the refurbished working Windmill in our area and delighted to inform you that the Upminster Windmill Visitor Centre garden has won first prize in the Havering in Bloom 2021 competition. Our congratulations go out to all those who have worked hard to get this award.

## Dogs' Mess

Further to the article in last month's Bulletin on "Dog Poo",

we have been in touch with the Council over a number of areas where bins needed emptying etc. The Council will be erecting "Dog Foul Stickers" in several areas to warn residents to be careful of dog poo deposited in the bin. We have also been asked to request dog owners to carefully deposit bags with poo in the bin. Can we also remind residents that street bins are not to be used for depositing household waste, which adds to the issue of bins becoming overfull. Thank you.


## Upminster Fireworks Display is back!

Please come along to our Fireworks Display on Saturday, 6th November, at Upminster Infant/Junior School Playing Field (next to the Crumpled Horn). Doors open at 5pm, display at 6:30pm. All information, including tickets, will be on our website [www.uspfa.co.uk](http://www.uspfa.co.uk).

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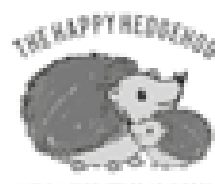
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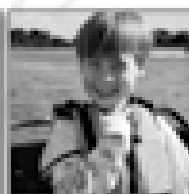
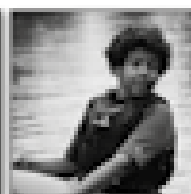
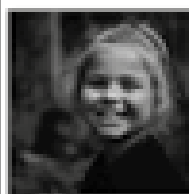
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## Let Havering Cycle protest ride

In mid-September I had the pleasure of joining fellow cyclists on the 'Let Havering Cycle! Protest Ride' from Harrow Lodge Park to the Town Hall. The ride was a follow-up to last year's protest, when a petition calling for the Council to take action to improve cycling facilities in the borough was presented to the Leader of the Council. Since then it is claimed that little has been done to address the issues raised.

The suggestion that things are bad for Havering cyclists is backed up by the Healthy Streets Scorecard coalition, which recently ranked Havering as second worse in London for cyclists and for making changes to make our streets healthier.

Cycling from the park to the Town Hall I took the opportunity to talk to several of the riders, asking them what their key wishes were for better provision. They identified some specific elements such as better signage, more dedicated cycle routes and, where

practical, shared footways, but the overwhelming desire was to be listened to and to have their views properly taken into account. Looking at the Council's plans for better cycle provision it is hard to find any clearly defined strategic approach.

For more information on the Healthy Streets Scorecard visit their website [www.healthystreetsscorecard.london/](http://www.healthystreetsscorecard.london/)

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- Tuesday, 9th November Haringey Borough. Kick off 7.45pm.
- Saturday, 20th November, Carshalton Athletic. Kick off 3pm.
- Saturday, 4th December, Kingstonian. Kick off 3pm.

It's a great friendly club, go along and support The Urchins your local team. The club also has an excellent website <https://www.hornchurchfc.com/>

## Christmas Tree Festival 2021 - 4th to 12th December



Once again Upminster Methodist Church is preparing for their Christmas Tree Festival and this year

it is back in the church. It will be the eleventh year the church has arranged this event which provides a lovely introduction for all ages to the Christmas season.

We will be inviting local schools, organisations from the church and

community to decorate trees for this event.

The Festival opens on Saturday, 4th December at 10am and there will be refreshments available all day.

The opening times are Saturdays 10-4pm, Sundays 2-5pm and weekdays 2-6pm.

We hope community groups and schools will visit during the week to see the trees. Entrance is free, and money raised through donations will be given to our chosen charity, which this year is St Francis Hospice.

For more details, please contact the church office **01708 222278** or email [upminstertreefest@gmail.com](mailto:upminstertreefest@gmail.com)

## Havering Council street trading survey

Havering Council are currently conducting a public survey, prior to introducing a street trading policy. They want to hear from local businesses and residents about what the policy should

*continued on page 7*

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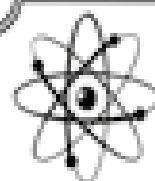


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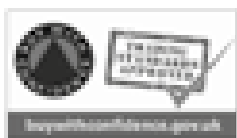
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include, so that they can help create a safe environment for businesses to trade outside on the street, while preventing crime and anti-social behaviour.

The consultation will cover the use of tables and chairs and advertising boards outside premises, and licensing for businesses that operate outside, like ice cream vans, and pop-up stalls.

The consultation runs until Tuesday, 9 November 2021 and can be accessed via [consultation.havering.gov.uk/environment/street-trading-policy/](https://www.havering.gov.uk/environment/street-trading-policy/).

## Cut the grass

Back in the late summer the Council introduced so called "Urban Meadows" in a number of areas where they believed they would be environmentally attractive. One area was in Lichfield Terrace and Westbury Terrace, Cranham where the grass was not cut back. It very soon looked miserable and became scruffy and some rubbish was dropped there and was somewhat different to the wonderful

display on the field in front of our Windmill where there was an abundance of wild flowers.

Your Upminster Resident Councillors Linda Hawthorn, Ron Ower and Chris Wilkins inundated the Council with requests to have the grass cut and the area cleared.

We are pleased to inform you that the grass was cut on 11th October. We appreciate the area we live in.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN,

Cllr RON OWER,

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

## Christmas Menu at Jobber's Rest

Bookings being taken for Christmas party menu, £32.50 for 3 courses plus tea, coffee and mince pies. Available from 18th November.

## London Marathon

Congratulations to all those who took part in this year's London marathon. Well done and a huge thank you for the money you raised for the various charities. Pictured is local resident Kevin



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Flower who was one of 5 running on behalf of local charity First Step - supporting families of children with special needs. Between them they have raised over £9,000 so far.



## National Trust

We are very lucky to have the Thames Chase Community Forest on our doorstep and you will read elsewhere in The Bulletin events they are holding this month.

We were reminded that there are other National Trust sites/buildings close by - merely search 'National Trust near me'.

## One Way Flight

Local author David Taplin has just released his new novel One Way Flight, based upon an Upminster boy who slips into the criminal world, biting off much more than he can chew. You can hear from David as he will be speaking at the Havering Literary Festival on Monday, 11th November at 2 pm at Upminster Library. The book is now available on Amazon.

## Cicerella: A Modern Fairy-Tale

At just 19 years old, local resident, Mitzi Harris has self-published her debut book, Cicerella: A modern fairy-tale. Mitzi's book is now available to buy on Amazon as either an eBook or in paperback. Mitzi's book, Cicerella, has been entered into the Kindle Storyteller Competition and therefore relies on support from people who read and review her book.

Mitzi has always loved writing and completed her first book at

*continued on page 9*

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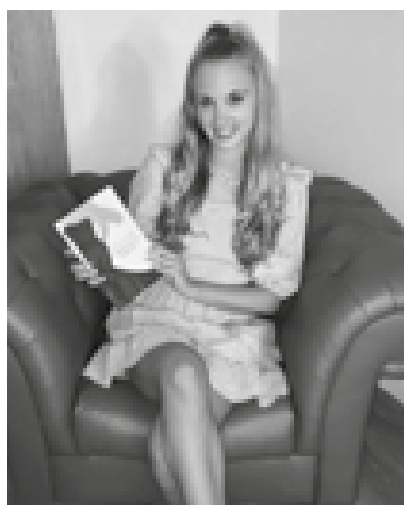
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just 13 years old. It was during the uncertain times of the pandemic that Mitzi started focussing on her writing again, completing five children's books during that time! She decided to publish Cicerella, which is a reimagined classic of the traditional tale of Cinderella. Through her work, Mitzi hopes to resonate with young people. She hopes to inspire young writers and is excited to be working with schools in the local area. Please support Mitzi by reading her book and following her on social media for latest updates @mitziwrites .



## Pinney Talfourd free seminars

Pinney Talfourd is delighted to announce the return of their popular seminars. Following two successful events in October 2021, the firm has confirmed that the next seminars will be taking place on the following dates:

- Friday, 5 November 2021 and Saturday, 6th November @ 10am, Upminster office
- Friday, 28 January 2022 and Saturday, 29 January 2022
- Friday, 11 February 2022 and Saturday, 12 February 2022

In the talks, the speakers will look at why having a Will is so important, what a Lasting Power of Attorney is, and how they can help with both. There will be refreshments on offer and lawyers from the team will be available to answer any questions attendees may have.

For more details visit their website here <https://www.pinneytalfourd.co.uk/news/free-wills-lpa-january-february-upminster>

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## Fireworks at Coopers Coborn School

Come along to the Coopers Coborn School Annual Fireworks Display on Saturday, 13th November 2021. Gates open at 5.30pm with the display due to start at 6.30pm. Limited free parking available on site. BBQ/ bar and live music throughout the evening.

Advanced tickets Adult £5, Children (Under 16s) £3, Family ticket £14 available from the School Shop or Office. Tickets on the night £6 Adults, Children £4.

## Hibernating your tortoise this year?

This has been a strange year not just for us humans coping with a pandemic but also for our tortoises coping with

bizarre weather conditions. This summer is supposed to have been the warmest on record, but it doesn't feel that way to me. Short heatwaves interspersed with cooler, wet weather have meant that tortoises kept outside may have eaten only sporadically throughout the season. Many female tortoises have laid eggs or become eggbound this year, some despite never having laid before or for many years. Others have poor appetites and are not thriving. If you are considering hibernating your tortoise this year, try to check on it periodically. Provided it stays cool you will not wake it. Check for response to touch, for signs of urination or any discharges from the nose or mouth. If you are uncertain about your tortoise's health during hibernation, then bring it out artificially by placing under a heat lamp and giving warm baths. Once awake tortoises should never be allowed to go back into hibernation until the following autumn. For advice on hibernating your tortoise please phone Lawton and Stoakes on 01708 384444.

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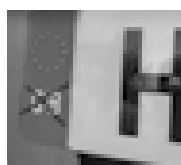
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## Driving in Europe



If you intend to drive your British vehicle in Europe you will now need a "UK" sticker on

your car. The new rule came into effect on 28 September for British registered cars driving outside the UK, with the exception of Ireland, which does not require a sticker or magnet. UK government guidance states: "If you have a GB sticker, cover or remove it."

## Vehicles obscuring their number plates

Recently, we have been informed of a number of times where vehicles have been seen to have their number plates covered up when parking on yellow lines etc., in an attempt to avoid getting a parking ticket. This particularly appears to be the case outside some homes where building work is taking place.

Residents Association Councillors enquired with Havering Council whether wardens are able to remove coverings over number plates to obtain the registration numbers, and received the following reply:

*"Thank you for your enquiry regarding builders obscuring vehicle number plates to avoid a Penalty Charge Notice being issued. It has been confirmed that Civil Enforcement Officers are allowed to remove anything that is obscuring a vehicle's registration number and issue a Penalty Charge Notice, as long as this will not cause damage to the vehicle, and then replace it once a Penalty Charge Notice has been issued. Please note this is also a criminal offence and the Police should be notified."*

## St Mary Magdalene, North Ockendon

The Revd Marion Williams, Rector of All Saints Church, Cranham, has been licensed by the Archdeacon of Barking to the Church of St Mary Magdalene North Ockendon,

as Priest in Charge. The services will be held once a month on the third Sunday at 4pm and first Wednesday of the month at 10.00am followed by a pop-in café. All are welcome.



Marion signing her licence watched by the Archdeacon

## Happy Hedgehog Family

Being aware of many items being put into general waste when they could either be reused or recycled, I have put together a Guide to Recycling. It offers ideas of where to recycle or send things for a

second life - everything from wax crayons to toothpaste tubes. The guide is regularly updated and is available to view on the website <https://happyhedgehogfamily.co.uk>

Please take a look to find out all you need to know about where and what to recycle in Havering.

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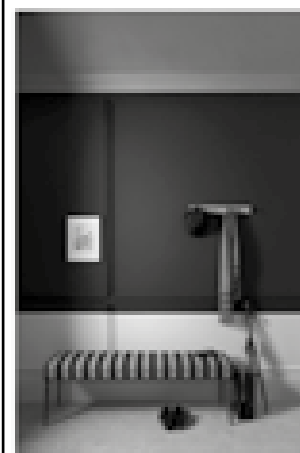
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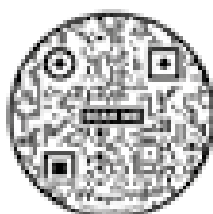
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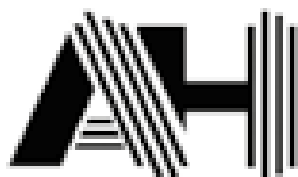
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## Thames Chase Seasonal Events

With winter upon us, we have scheduled a host of seasonal events for the local community.

- Saturday, 20th & Sunday, 21st November, 10am - 4pm, annual Thames Chase Christmas Craft Fair has lots of local craftspeople in attendance to help you find that perfect Christmas gift or decoration.
- 5th December, the Christmas winter walk returns, with festive treats for all. New for 2021 on the same day, is a Christmas wreath making session between 2 and 4pm, £36, booking essential.
- The annual Christmas celebration returns on Sunday, 19th December with a host of Christmas crafts for sale, as well as seasonal musical performances. There will also be a Christmas table decoration session between 2 - 4pm, £36, booking essential.

Please visit [www.thameschase.org.uk](http://www.thameschase.org.uk) or the Facebook page for more information on all events.



## Please be careful

All sorts of work is taking place in a number of local homes. Please advise your builders etc to ensure that their vehicles are fully locked whilst working on your dwelling. We have received a report of an opportunist thief trying the doors on vehicles locally.

## Margot and the Magical Plant

In the June Bulletin we introduced the children's book by local author Jane Rhodes, which follows Margot's exciting growing adventure as she plants her tomato

## Unlock the equity in your home and enjoy a more comfortable retirement.

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seeds and encourages readers to do the same. Merchandise is now available to offer children a whole experience to make their planting more interesting and personal to them. Please see the add on page 17 or visit <https://margotmagicalplant.com/>.

## Kids Inspire Charity wins Queen's Award

The recognition evening for the Queen's award for Voluntary Services (in the charity space the equivalent of the MBEs) took place on 26th September with the Lord Lieutenant for Essex, the Mayor and top Council officials. Martyn Mead, a local Emerson Park resident and a supporter of the Residents' Association is an active volunteer and fund raiser for the Charity Kids Inspire, who celebrate their 14th birthday this year and were among the winners.

Kids Inspire have grown from supporting 25 children to supporting over 5,000 children, young people, families, siblings and grandparents providing services tailored to individual needs.

Huge congratulations and thanks go to everyone involved with Kids Inspire and also to the other worthy winners.

DAVID GODWIN

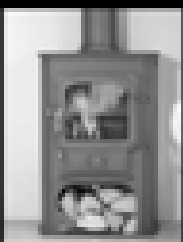
## H.A.D - The Little Green Hut

Do you know who we are? Havering Association for People with Disabilities (H.A.D) offer a broad range of services and activities for people with disabilities with the object of improving their quality of life, promote independence and meet their physical, emotional, and recreational needs.

We welcome and support people with a variety of disabilities and long term health conditions. All our activities are held in our accessible and welcoming community Hut in Wingletye Lane. We hold classes Monday through to Friday, these include social clubs, art and wellbeing and computer classes. There is a fully accessible computer suite which is available for use. We also have occasional day trips and meals out for all to enjoy.

*continued on page 15*

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## OUT AND ABOUT IN YOUR LOCAL AREA

### Upminster and Cranham Royal British Legion

You don't have to be ex-services to

join the RBL, everyone is welcome as a Social Member. Take a look at what we have coming up.

- **Christmas Market** - 13th November 11am - 3.15pm. Paul will be outside with his "Poppy Shop". Parking at Coopers School from 9am.
- **Unwanted travel money collection** - proceeds to the poppy appeal.
- 14th November, **Remembrance Sunday** followed by "Frankie Rockin Smith" at 3pm
- 17th December, **Christmas Bash** with "The Fabs"
- 24th December **Christmas Eve** get together with family and friends
- 31st December **New year's Eve** with "Love DJs"

We also have a quiz bingo on the last Friday of each month, our Knit, Sew & Natter (Thursdays 2 - 4pm) is going from strength to strength (call **Lorraine 07796 992000** or the club **01708 223157**) and we will be showing all major sporting events on Sky Sports and BT Sport. Check the British Legion Branches website or call the club **01708 223157** for more details.

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## Would you like to join the Cappella Singers of Upminster?

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Rehearsals on Thursday evenings, 7.30 - 9.30pm at Trinity United Reformed Church, Station Road, Upminster for a Christmas concert in early December, which will include a number of carols. New members welcome so why not come along? If you are interested

please contact **Ian Pirie** on **01708 641718**, email: **ian\_michael\_pirie@btinternet.com**

## Art exhibitions at Upminster Library

Upminster Art Society will be exhibiting members paintings from 15th to 27th November. Janet and Terry Doyle are exhibiting their work from 29th November to 11th December. All paintings will be for sale. For enquiries please call Terry Doyle on 01708 532967.

## Hornchurch Photographic Society

We are a friendly group of amateur photographers looking for new members to join our club. We meet on a Monday night, 7.45 - 10pm at Ardleigh House Community Association/Havering College in the main hall. If you have an interest in photography

*continued on page 17*

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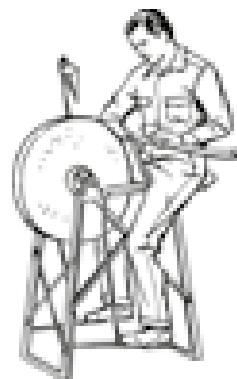
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## A musical evening - Thames Chase Forest Centre

An evening of music showcasing songs from shows and films, welcoming back the Dominic Ashworth trio with Jill Luff on vocals.

At the Forest Centre Cafe on Friday, 12th November 2021, 7.30 - 9.30pm. Tickets £10. Telephone **01708 642970** to book your place. Bring your own nibbles and drinks, tea and coffee will be available.

## Christmas Fair at Langtons

The beautiful historic Langtons Gardens in Hornchurch plays host to a Christmas Fair on Sunday, 21st November. Please contact Langtons for further details.

## Oglethorpe WI

Please note the change to our regular meetings. Now at 1.45 until 4.30pm on the 4th Wednesday of every month, at Cranham Social Hall, Front Lane, Cranham.

Our next meeting is on the 24th of November when we will be having a handicraft session making cards, etc. We look forward to seeing all our members again and visitors are warmly welcomed. For further information please contact Secretary Mrs. E. Bell on 01708 251161.

## Christmas Shopping Event

The Cranham Community Centre is hosting a Christmas shopping event on Saturday, 20th November 2021 between 10am to 4 pm. Entry is free. Please come along and support the centre. We have lots of stall holders selling a variety of things.

## The Arts Society, Havering

Our November lecture will be "Sir Stanley Spencer: an autobiography in pictures" by Carolyn Leder. Spencer (1891-1959) was one of Britain's greatest painters, famous for his beautiful realistic landscapes and remarkable images of the two World Wars.

This lecture will be held on Tuesday, 9th November 10 - 12pm at the New Windmill Hall, Upminster. This event will be available to visitors for a fee of £8. Please visit our website: <https://tashavering.org.uk/Home.aspx> or contact us at [info@tashavering.org.uk](mailto:info@tashavering.org.uk).

RICHARD SAVILLE

## Gardens of Easton Lodge

The Upminster & District Horticultural Society's lecture for November is on a garden with royal connections. Angus Driver will tell the story of this historic garden from the 1590s to the present. The garden is open to the public on a few days of the year and not to be missed are the spectacular Snowdrops towards the latter part of January. Join us to find out more on Tuesday, 9th November, 7.45 to 9.45pm, New Windmill Hall, Upminster. There will be an interval for tea and biscuits and a raffle will be held at the end of the evening.

*continued on page 19*



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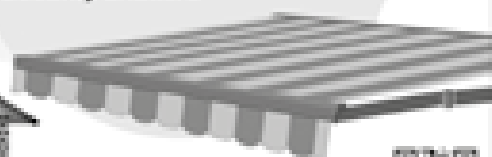
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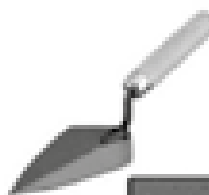
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Our Christmas Carol concert will  
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@ 7.30pm, All Saints Church,  
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## Havering Astronomical Society

- Wednesday, 17 November, 7.15  
for 7.30pm - **Nik Szymanek**,  
'New Adventures with Robotic  
Imaging.'
- Wednesday, 8 December, 7.15  
for 7.30pm - **annual Christmas  
Quiz**, presented by *Peter Morris  
and Magda Wheatley*.

Please email [secretary@havaastro.  
co.uk](mailto:secretary@havaastro.co.uk) if interested.

- Thursday, 25 November, 7.00  
- 8.15pm - our exciting Young  
Astronomer program continues  
now in person. Thames Chase  
Forest Centre, Pike Lane,  
Upminster. Email [young.  
astronomers@havaastro.co.uk](mailto:young.astronomers@havaastro.co.uk)

## Havering U3A

Meetings have recommenced  
and will take place on the second  
Wednesday of each month in  
the Main Hall, St Michael and All  
Angels Church, Main Road, Gidea  
Park at 14.30pm.

- Wednesday, 10th November  
Bernard Locket - The musical  
theatre of Gilbert & Sullivan
- Wednesday, 8th December  
- Daniela Bartlett - "Tis the  
Season to Be Jolly"

Check out the website [https://  
u3asites.org.uk/havering](https://u3asites.org.uk/havering) for  
further details or just come along.  
New members always welcome.

## Upminster and District Probus

Meetings held at The Cranleigh  
Restaurant in Hornchurch. At our  
last meeting we were entertained  
by Toni Mount speaking about Life  
in Medieval London (Sex in the  
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we will be serving a 3 course lunch  
and our speaker will talk about  
Marilyn Monroe. Are you retired?  
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## South Essex Townswomen's Guilds Leisure Day 2021

Our annual leisure day will be  
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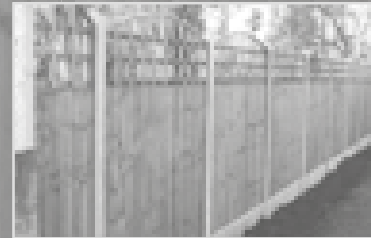
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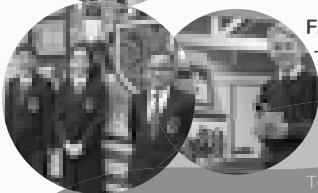
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## Phil Ruck



We are delighted to inform you that Phil Ruck has joined the Residents' Association team. He will be

primarily working alongside the Cranham Councillors. Phil was Chief Executive of Brentwood Borough Council before he retired in 2019 and has worked in local government for over 15 years, which combined with his experience gained worldwide commercially in the container logistics and IT sectors, will be of great benefit to the Association. Phil, a lifelong Havering resident was born in Cranham, and apart from a few years in Melbourne, Australia, has lived in Cranham for 65 years. As you would appreciate, as CEO at Brentwood, Phil has amassed knowledge at all levels across a wide range of council services. He strongly believes that local authorities should be open, transparent and crucially accountable and must support the most vulnerable in our society, and aim to change people's lives for the better. In today's world, change and the pressures on individuals and the community

are ever present and a council must be flexible and strong to respond to improve lives for all and in particular, protect those who cannot protect themselves. Phil has been attending St Luke's and Moor Lane churches for over 31 years and can often be seen leading services there. A former member (referee, never in the Nigel Owens class) of the Upminster Rugby Club, Phil, his wife and his children went to the Coopers Company & Coborn School. Phil has a heart for service and is keen to give back something to our community by supporting the protection and improvement of our local environment, services, facilities and infrastructure. Phil can be contacted on 07778 569759.

## Residents' Association litter pick in Cranham Brickfields

In mid-September Cranham ward Councillors Gillian Ford and John Tyler, were joined by UCRA team member, Oscar Ford, and John's daughter, Jessica, to litter pick in the woods in Cranham Brickfields. They were pleased to find a lot less litter along the paths than before, and concentrated on clearing a section of woods that had years of uncollected litter, including a number of large metal

objects. Havering Council was contacted to arrange for the litter to be picked-up. If you would like to join in with litter picking efforts next time please let any of the Councillors know and you will be added to the volunteers list.



## Deyncourt Gardens J/W Eversleigh Gardens during icy conditions

Last winter, I contacted Havering Council regarding the corner of Deyncourt Gardens and Eversleigh Gardens, which frequently becomes icy, resulting

*continued on page 22*

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in pedestrians slipping over or vehicles failing to negotiate the bend and mounting the pavement. I asked the Council to add this section of road to the local gritting route, and to grit it every time there were adverse weather conditions. They declined this request, stating that only 'priority routes' were routinely gritted. I also asked for a yellow salt/grit bin to be placed at the location and for a telephone number, for fast-time reporting of dangerous conditions, to be advertised and listed on the Council's website.

Neither of these measures have been undertaken at the time of writing, so I have repeated my request for a salt bin and submitted a question at the next Full Council (17 November 2021) to the Cabinet Member for Environment, calling for the telephone number to be provided by the end of November this year.

Whatever we may feel about some of the Council's current deficiencies, failing to take measures to prevent a predictable danger is simply not acceptable. I will update residents on what responses I get.

CLlr JOHN TYLER

## Councillors undertake pruning around Front Lane bridge

In mid-September, UCRA Councillors John Tyler, Gillian

Ford, Linda Van den Hende and Chris Wilkins, together with UCRA team member, Oscar Ford, put on their gardening gloves and undertook the pruning of overgrown bushes, weeds and low-growing tree branches on both sides of the bridge over the railway line in Front Lane.

For several months, Councillor Ron Ower and a local resident have been attempting to get Havering Council to undertake the pruning of foliage growing from their land on either side of the bridge and to contact Network Rail, who also own land at the Cranham end of the bridge, to do the same. Nothing had been done by the Council and therefore the Councillors decided to get together and do it themselves. Hopefully the many people who use the pavements on a regular basis will notice the difference. Thanks to the resident that stepped in to help out and to the many people that stopped to chat.

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