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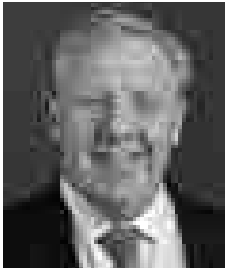
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# May 5th local elections We want to keep Uppminster & Cranham Local

Over many years the Uppminster & Cranham Residents' Association has had the privilege of representing the people of Uppminster, Cranham, Dury Falls and North Ockendon. We believe our residents come first and foremost. Any problem, however big or small, is treated with the same degree of urgency and respect. We believe our community is best served by local people and that the interests of all are served to the very best of our abilities. We do not appear just before an election and disappear again shortly afterwards, but maintain a constant presence throughout the year with our dedicated monthly Bulletin, dedicated website [www.ucra.co.uk](http://www.ucra.co.uk), special newsletters, social media, public meetings and drop in sessions.

For the local elections on Thursday, 5th May we ask for your support in continuing to put Uppminster, Cranham, Dury Falls and North Ockendon first and making our communities better places to live.



Councillor  
CHRIS WILKINS



Councillor  
LINDA HAWTHORN



OSCAR FORD



## Havering Residents Association

### "Change is Coming"

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



Candidates from the Havering Residents Association manifesto for the May 5th local elections

## A Huge Thank You

We heard from Ron Ower and Linda Van Den Hende in the February Bulletin, and their plans to stand down as Councillors for Uppminster and Cranham respectively. As we approach the May elections and their period of office finally comes to end, I'm sure you will all join the UCRA Executive in thanking them both for their service. Between them they have clocked up an unbelievable 65 years of service

to the local community, including Ron's early days in Newham. Here is a photo of Ron in his younger years, clearly in the midst of an election campaign with his name emblazoned across the car - how things have changed. As they both confirmed, they will remain on the Executive and closely affiliated with the RA which is great news. Our sincere thanks to them both.



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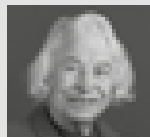
**Carl: 07951 235195**

Email: cpickering1976@outlook.com

## ASSOCIATION COUNCILLORS

### UPMINSTER WARD

**Linda Hawthorn** 01708 225451



lindahawthorn@hotmail.co.uk

**Ron Ower** 07721 780372



CouncillorRon.Ower@havering.gov.uk

**Chris Wilkins** 07960 059195



CouncillorChristopher.Wilkins@havering.gov.uk

## ASSOCIATION TEAM MEMBER

**Oscar Ford** 01708 641317



oforducra@gmail.com

## Local Elections – Thursday, 5th May

You should have received by  
now your "Polling Cards" from  
Havering Council giving you  
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If you have not received a card  
and wish to obtain confirmation  
that you can vote please contact  
us at [bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk) or  
call **07721 780 372**.

**In Upminster Ward we have two  
new Polling Stations.**

**For Polling Area UP1 -**  
Upminster Library,  
26 Corbets Tey Road, RM14 2BB.

**For UP2 -**  
Gwillcoo Scout Hall,  
25/27 Brookdale  
Avenue  
RM14 2LT.

The Council are still using UP3  
Baptist Church, Springfield  
Gardens, UP4 James Oglethorpe  
School, Ashvale Gardens, UP5  
Gaynes School, Brackendale  
Gardens, and UP6 Corbets Tey  
School, Harwood Hall Lane.

If you are in doubt where to vote  
please contact us at [bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk) or call me on **07721 780 372**.

Cllr RON OWER

## Speeding vehicles/ congestion on various Upminster roads

As reported in last month's  
Bulletin, Upminster Councillors  
have been putting pressure on the  
Council's Traffic Management  
Team to take action regarding  
speeding vehicles in various  
Upminster roads, as well as  
taking steps to introduce parking  
restrictions, to reduce congestion  
in adjoining roads to Branfil's  
School Streets' Scheme. Following  
this a motion was submitted at  
the last Full Council, held on the  
23 March 2022, by Upminster and  
Cranham Residents' Association  
(UCRA) Councillors. The motion  
requested that the Council

prepare a report to be taken to the  
next available Highways' Advisory  
Committee, and that the report  
should include possible traffic  
measure solutions addressing  
the concerns we had raised on  
behalf of local residents. UCRA  
Councillors' motion was agreed  
at the Council meeting. We have  
already chased Council Officers  
to ascertain how these matters are  
being progressed. Further updates  
will be provided in future editions  
of the Bulletin.

Cllrs LINDA HAWTHORN, RON  
OWER & CHRIS WILKINS

## Volunteers needed

Last year we tried to contact you  
all to collect the £2 subscription  
per household whilst we hoped  
that advertising would pay for the  
Bulletin. The funds are needed to  
support work on your behalf in the  
community. With this in mind if  
you live in Upminster ward and  
can assist collecting subs this year  
please contact Councillor Chris  
Wilkins on **07960 059195**. Chris  
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## M25 traffic noise update

Since Richard Moorey's article in the April edition of The Bulletin (p.3), concerning increased road noise from the M25, I have received a number of messages from residents, who all agree with Richard's comments.

Please feel free to continue to send me your opinions to [johntylerucresidents@outlook.com](mailto:johntylerucresidents@outlook.com). We will be gathering everyone's views together and investigating whether there is anything that can be done to reduce the noise.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

## Waste Bins

Sadly in the February storm we lost several trees and also, believe it or not, waste bins, which were not fixed securely. These were reported and the bins replaced, so hopefully all will be well in future as far as our bins are concerned. The Council should be replacing the trees.

Cllr LINDA HAWTHORN

## Upminster Windmill Gardens and Visitor Centre

The restoration work on the windmill continues and it is hoped that it will be open to the public next year. Meanwhile the gardens and possibly the visitor centre will be open on the weekends of 7 & 8 May and the 4 & 5 June for residents to visit between 11am and 4pm - admission free.



As well as enjoying the beautiful gardens, visitors may be able to experience the interactive technology currently being developed and other displays available in the visitor centre.

Information will be available

on the website: [www.upminsterwindmill.org](http://www.upminsterwindmill.org) and on facebook.

FRIENDS OF  
UPMINSTER WINDMILL

## Parking around schools

Recently, Councillors have received an increasing number of reports of dangerous parking around our local schools at the start and end of the school day, particularly primary schools.

Many cases include cars or vans parking with two wheels on the pavement (not in marked bays) close to schools, preventing push chairs etc. from getting past. There have also been several instances where vehicles have actually parked with all four wheels on the pavement, completely obstructing it and forcing parents and children to cross over or walk into the road to go around the vehicle.

We all realise that it can get busy around our schools but no-one wants to see an accident, so we would urge everyone to park sensibly if you travel to school by vehicle.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

## Time Tees Cars

It is with great sadness that I must announce the closure of Time Tees Cars. We began trading in 1982, in 1992 I took over from my father and in 2005 I joined forces with my best friend Darren. Unfortunately, our landlords did not offer us the freehold opportunity and it was sold to a development company. We have always endeavoured to put our loyal customers first, but with such uncertainty it is difficult to invest in our business.

We have been fortunate over the years to have employed loyal, hard-working members of staff. We owe it to them to cease trading with sufficient capital to ensure their redundancy and to assist in securing future employment. This will mean no more MOT and Service reminders so to check when yours is due, please use the government MOT history website.

This is Simon & Darren signing off with a big thank you to you, our very loyal and supportive customers.

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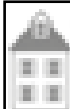
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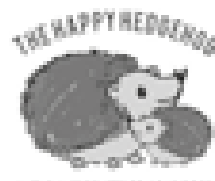
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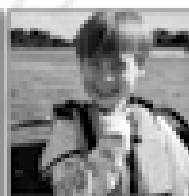
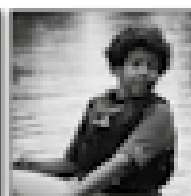
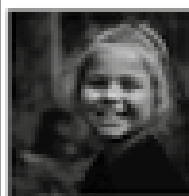
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We are pleased to promote First Step's summer fund raising event on Saturday 9th July 2022 at Langdon Hills Golf Club from 6.30pm. Tickets £30 per person includes a 2 course carvery dinner followed by DJ and disco. For details and to book, email or call **Caroline** or **Janet** on **E:fundraising@firststep.org.uk** or **01708 556355**.

## Local Elections

As we approach polling day on Thursday, May 5th it's very disappointing to see in the National media National Political Parties using the local elections as a referendum on the Government. These local elections are very important in the history of Havering Council and are to decide on how local matters are run ie, roads, parks, libraries, footpaths and parking to name just a few.

RON OWE

## Lower Thames Crossing

National Highways have now finalised their consultation dates for the upcoming Lower Thames Crossing Local Refinement consultation. The consultation will run over five weeks from Thursday 12th May to Monday 20th June and further information can be found on the link below.

<https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-work/lower-thames-crossing/latest-news/further-consultation-for-lower-thames-crossing/>

In addition, National Highways have also announced a series of walking and cycling and horse riding route proposals. These proposals will be included as part of the upcoming consultation and further details can be found on the link below:

<https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-work/lower-thames-crossing/walkers-cyclists-and-horse-riders/>

We will keep you informed of any further news on this.

## Public Access Defibrillators update

Further to Corrine Barrett's article in a previous issue, we are pleased to report that a further defibrillator has been added to the Clubhouse on Hall Lane Playing Fields on the playing field side of the Clubhouse. The Clubhouse is managed by Upminster Hall Sports Association and is used by the Upminster Rugby Club and the Emerson Park and Upminster FC.



The defibrillator was sponsored by Croma Vigilant and we would like to extend a big thanks to them for making this happen. The defibrillator is readily available for public access should it be needed in an emergency.

Defibrillators (also known as

AEDs - Automatic External Defibrillators) are medical devices that help and support a patient in cardiac arrest. In fact, they are the only device that can help when someone has a cardiac arrest. The device will talk you through what to do when you need to use it until further help can assist you when dealing with someone who is having a cardiac arrest.

## High Inflation

Following lockdown many families were hoping and looking forward to returning to restaurants, cinemas, the theatre, travelling on holiday or simply meeting up with family or friends. Sadly for many these events which we have come to expect as a part of our everyday lives are becoming a thing of the past due to being unable to achieve due to lack of cash. Inflation is at its highest for 30 years and you only have to visit our supermarkets to see how prices have and are sharply rising. Petrol prices are still at record levels. This has led to many residents cutting out non-essentials, seeking out food banks

continued on page 7

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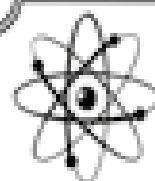


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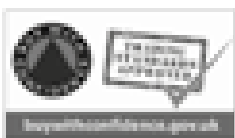
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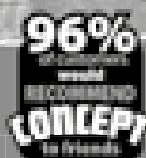


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or switching supermarkets in an effort to save cash. Comparison websites are giving drivers options on prices at petrol stations.

The predictions on increase in energy prices leave many families faced with the question "Do we cut down on heating so we can eat?" The Government needs to address this now.

RON OWE

## Tithe Barn

The Tithe Barn Museum of Nostalgia has the following open days this year. The Barn is open from 10.30am to 4pm in Hall Lane. There is a free car park and disabled parking space is available. Entry is free.

April 2 & 16, May 7 & 21, June 4 & 18, July 2 & 16, August 6 & 20, September 3 & 17, October 1.

They have an excellent website [upminstertithebarn.co.uk](http://upminstertithebarn.co.uk)

## ULEZ

The Mayor of London is proposing that the current ULEZ (Ultra Low Emission Zone), a charge on older

fuel inefficient vehicles in inner London, be extended in 2023 to cover the Greater London Area, which means that Havering will be subject to new charges. He has also commissioned a study to look at charging motorists on a pay per mile basis for travelling in the London area. In addition he wants to broaden the range of vehicles that would pay charges to newer ones as well.

This increases the burden for all in Havering who use vehicles, particularly those who rely upon them for work or those who are vulnerable. Please bear in mind that the transport network between the south and north of the borough is lacking, our EV charging offer is below what is required, we have a lack of dedicated cycle routes and we do not have as many train and bus options.

Nobody will disagree that we need cleaner air or that we must help reduce the impact on our climate, but imposing additional charges is not the answer.

If we form an Administration in May we will be asking the Mayor of London to look at alternatives to penalising the residents of

Havering and for the Government to be clear on national policy and funding arrangements to assist local authorities in delivering Net Zero.

UPMINSTER AND CRANHAM  
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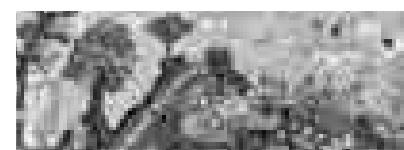
## Watch that Speed

May we remind you to check your speed when driving through the area. The police will and do hold speed checks.

## Thames Chase Art Competition

Thames Chase calls for young artists to share artworks inspired by the community forest. It is running a special art competition for children to showcase their talents along the theme of 'Enjoying the Forest' after many experienced more of the Thames Chase Community Forest during lockdown.

The project is part of the Thames



Fern Gibson, Age 6, 2020 winner of the 4-10 age category



Siyona Bhandari, 2020 winner of the 11 - 16 age category

Chase annual art exhibition where over 150 local artists participate in a display at the Forest Centre. This is the 4th children's art competition, and this year, local artists will deliver inspirational holiday sessions to inspire young minds.

Trustee Mary Wright says "Inspiring the next generation to understand the world around them is vital to ensure that they take care of the landscape and continue to protect the environment."

continued on page 9

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## News from The Police

**THINGS TO KNOW** - Vehicle crime is one of the highest crime types committed in Havering and we need to work together to stop this occurring.

**THINGS TO DO** - Lock your vehicle when leaving it unattended, simple! If your vehicle is locked it's harder for people to steal from it. Don't leave valuables out on display. Apply a steering lock, this is a great deterrent and can prevent your vehicle being stolen. **EXTRAS:** you can do a little extra to secure your vehicle by: Installing metal bollards on driveways, place keys in a faraday bag or even place a ring doorbell camera which covers your parked vehicle. Finally, if you see it, report it. If you don't, we don't know it's happening!

Don't Help **Them** To Help **Themselves** and don't forget, If you **See** it **Report** it!

## Net Zero challenge

The Government has a policy to achieve Net Zero by the year 2050 but our dependence on

fossil fuels is a massive challenge to be overcome. Existing homes need to be better insulated and heating system need updating. New homes must be more energy efficient. Cleaner, easier and safer transport options are required with better local shopping and business opportunities to reduce the burden on our road systems, all requiring major investment if we are to benefit from cleaner air, lower energy bills and less damage to the natural environment. In November 2021 the Council produced the Havering Climate Change Action Plan but this was widely criticised for containing significant gaps, being poorly structured, and lacking costed actions. Be assured that your Upminster and Cranham Councillors will continue to work with all partners and stakeholders to challenge and improve this position.

## Struggling with debt?

In these times of rapid price increases, many are finding it hard to make ends meet. Imagine living in constant fear, perhaps of

a knock on the door, the phone ringing, going out in the street, or the flap of the letterbox bringing more demands and threats. People in debt can face losing their homes, breakdowns in relationships, and parents going without food themselves to feed their children.

People need support to get back on their feet so they can start to rebuild their lives.

Help is at hand through the charity CAP (Christians Against Poverty) which I have supported for many years. Upminster and Cranham have a CAP centre that has been established for the last 10 years and has helped 52 people become debt free, find jobs and once again contribute to and be valued by our community.

This service is available to residents in Hornchurch and Romford as well. If you know someone who needs help, or you need help yourself, please contact Miles Picknell by emailing [milespicknell@capuk.org](mailto:milespicknell@capuk.org), or for those who want to find out more before making a call, visit [www.capuk.org](http://www.capuk.org) or call **08003280006**. The service is completely free and is confidential, or perhaps you

could think about donating to such a worthy cause?

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## Southend Adventure Island and Sealife discount tickets

Adventure Island wristbands tickets £15 and Sealife tickets £6.50. To buy pop into either: Caffè Gelato in Corbets Tey Road, Upminster or Maa Eyecare in Avon Road, Upminster. Cash only please.

You will be given a voucher to take to the kiosk in Adventure Island and there you will be given the wristband for the rides. Wristbands tickets are valid for all days that the park is open up to the end of 2022. All tickets are £15 regardless of height, but height restrictions still apply on rides.

All money raised goes to the Engayne Primary Friends Association. Our registered charity number is:1107207.

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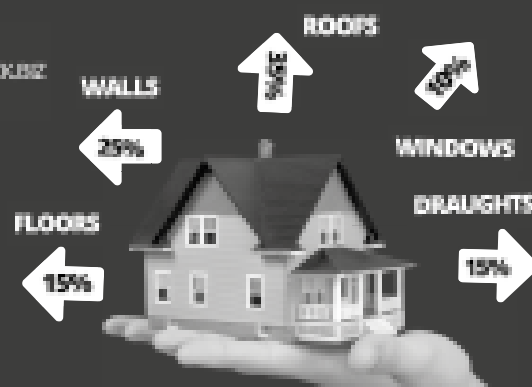
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## Trees

We get a number of enquiries on street Trees. The Council should only take out dead, diseased or dangerous trees. Over the years we have been successful in getting the Council to plant a huge amount of trees in our area. We keep a close eye on where the Council are planting trees. Please contact us if you have any thoughts were a tree should go.

## Watch out for fly strike

As the weather warms up so flies become a nuisance to us, however for some animals especially rabbits flies are more than just a nuisance, they can be a serious health hazard. If you have a rabbit you should check its bottom daily or even twice daily in the warm weather and if you notice he/she has soiling of the fur around its bottom with urine or faeces wash and dry it thoroughly. This can occur in any rabbit but particularly if the rabbit is obese or has arthritis which prevent it from cleaning itself or squatting properly to pass urine and faeces.

Dental disease may also prevent a rabbit from grooming itself. Any diarrhoea or a urinary infection can result in soiling of the bottom as well. Flies are attracted to this area and lay their eggs which then hatch into maggots within 24hrs. If you spot maggots in your rabbit's fur contact your vet immediately. Your vet may want to anaesthetise your pet in order to thoroughly clean it and remove all the maggots which will have started burrowing into the flesh. This is a painful and life-threatening condition. If you have any concerns regarding your rabbit's health and would like advice, please telephone Lawton and Stoakes on **01708 384444**.

## Your emails

We like receiving your emails. Please remember to give your contact details. The following two articles have come in from a local resident.

## Parking

This is a problem across the country but some parking causes delays, danger to other road users and pedestrians. It isn't that we

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don't have rules that would stop this, but they aren't followed or enforced. Some of the rules are:

- Highway Code Rule 243 - Do Not stop or park - opposite or within 10 metres of a junction (also applies to Blue Badge holders) on a bend (also applies to Blue Badge holders).

In Havering most yellow lines only apply Monday to Saturday. Why don't they apply on Sundays? Dangerous parking doesn't stop being dangerous on Sundays.

Every day I see illegal and dangerous parking, but rarely see anyone enforcing the rules. Without enforcement the rule breakers will continue to do so.


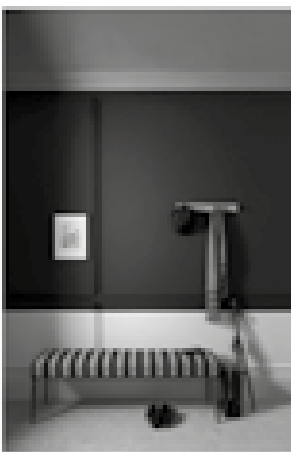
An example is Springfield Gardens. Cars regularly park on the double yellow lines at the Corbets Tey Road end, sometimes on both sides of the road, and on the bends in the road opposite Meadow Way and Fairfield Avenue.

## Traffic Lights

Drivers are regularly crossing

junctions when the lights are already red against them. This is dangerous for all other road users and pedestrians. Why isn't it standard for all traffic lights to have cameras enforcing vehicles to comply with them? Again, if it is a matter of cost, the fines will pay for the initial installations and, once better compliance is achieved, the reduced fines will pay for running

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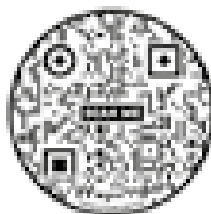
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costs and the safety benefits will be extremely worthwhile. Whilst stopping speeding is important, I feel the same attention needs to be given to parking and enforcing traffic light compliance.

## Ilford Football Club

Residents who originally hail from the Ilford area may be interested to know that Ilford Football Club recently celebrated its 140 year association with the town whose name it bears. To mark the occasion an Exhibition funded by the Heritage Fund and a book, chronicling the club's illustrious past, were both recently launched. The book, written by Upminster resident, Michael Foley, details a fascinating history which includes matches against the likes of FC Barcelona, Ajax and Monchengladbach, Wembley cup finals and also hosting matches for the London 1948 Olympics (at Ilford's former Lynn Road stadium). The book has been widely promoted including on Talksport, by Tony Incenzo. Anyone wishing to purchase a copy can do so direct from the

author by emailing him on: [mj.foley@aol.c.uk](mailto:mj.foley@aol.c.uk). It costs £12.99. Michael is also keen, as part of ongoing research, to hear from anybody who may have personal recollections of the club in its former days.

## Midsummer Madness

An evening of live music provided by local talent old and new at Cranham Community Hall, Marlborough Gardens on 25th June from 7.30 pm to 11pm. All in support of a great cause The Brain Tumour Charity - The Judy D'cruz Fund. Tickets £10. Children under 16 voluntary donation.

Due to the kind sponsorship of K Wagstaff & Sons every penny of the ticket money goes to the cause. Get your tickets by calling **07896 724 768** or email [judyandwin@ntlworld.com](mailto:judyandwin@ntlworld.com). Please contact me if you have any prizes you may want to donate to the raffle. Support local live music and support a great cause. You can read more on the charity at [www.judydcruz.com](http://www.judydcruz.com)

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## English tuition to Ukrainian refugees

Speak the World Language school based in Upminster provides English tuition to Ukrainian refugees. There are already many refugees that have arrived locally and we strongly believe that the only way for people to integrate in to local community is to be able to communicate. Most refugees would like to start working as soon as possible, so they need at least basic English in order to apply for jobs. There are many children and teenagers that are waiting to be accepted into local schools and we would like to make this transition for them as smooth as possible by getting them up to speed with their English.

We are also in contact with an English teacher, who is an Ukrainian refugee herself, and would like to help her countrymen to learn and improve the language. We would welcome any donations towards the costs of running these English classes.

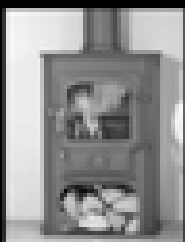
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*continued on page 15*

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Performances: 8pm on Thursday 19th, Friday 20th and Saturday 21st of May 2022

Location: Upminster Methodist Church, Hall Lane, Upminster, RM14 1AE.

## The Old Chapel Tea and Talks

Wednesday, 11th May – **The Ghost walks on Friday**. Kate Poole will tell us about the London theatres that are haunted by ghosts – some endearing and some tragic! Doors open at 9.45am, our AGM will be held at 10.15am before the talk at 10.30am.

Wednesday, 8th June – **The Enigma of Boudicca or Boadicea**. Andrew Summers' illustrated talk

explores the 'facts' of Boudicca's rebellion so far as it is known and examines the resultant heritage, legacy and mythology grown up around it.

**Fees:** £2 for registered members and £4 to visitors with refreshments after the talk. Doors open 10am – meeting starts 10.30am.

Contact: **friendsoldchapel@mary.havering.sch.uk** for further information.

Venue: Roope Hall, Trinity URC Church, 29 Station Rd, Upminster RM14 2SJ

## "Learn, Laugh and Live!"

Havering U3A meet at 2.30pm on the second Wednesday of the month at St. Michael's Church Hall, Main Road, Gidea Park. Interest groups run throughout the month.

Wednesday, 11th May, Andrew Baker will be speaking about "Making Sense of Today's World".

Wednesday, 8th June, Dave Allen will be speaking "Manners Please Dearest".

Doors open 2.15pm. For more

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All abilities are welcome, no previous experience needed. Sessions will be guided by British Wheel of Yoga Teacher Jill Luff and experienced meditation practitioner Peter Tomlins.

## Shirley Tours

Thursday, 9th June, **Brick Lane Music Hall "70 Glorious Years"**. Includes coach, three course hot

lunch before watching the matinee show. Departs mid-morning from the Jobber's Rest car park, Plough Pub in Cranham and Avon Road, arrive home approx 6.30pm with usual drop offs en-route. Cost £72pp.

Thursday, 15th December **Christmas Lunch with Abba Style show**. Coach travel from local picks ups, entertainment Abba style and topical quiz with 3 course festive lunch. Pricing to follow. Start your pre-Christmas festivities with this trip.

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Fund raising for James Oglethorpe, Engayne, Hall Mead schools, All Saint's Church and All Saint's scout group

## Upminster and District Horticultural Society

The Dry Garden at RHS Hyde Hall and, not to be missed, the Society's plant sale.

On 10th May the Upminster and District Horticultural Society has Ian Bull a garden manager at Hyde Hall speaking about the iconic Dry Garden. The talk includes how and why it was built and looks at plants that thrive in this harsh environment.

We also have our annual plant sale. Plants are donated by members and sold at bargain prices. Doors open at 7.15 pm with the lecture starting at 7.45pm and ending at 9.45pm. There will be refreshments served during the interval finishing with a raffle at the end of the evening.

Entrance is free to members and is £2 for non-members. You can find out more about our society by visiting our website **www.upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk**

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## Craft sale

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## Ardleigh House

Wednesday, 18 May -  
**"A Celebration of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee"** We have teamed up with a London Blue Badge guide for a day to celebrate our Queen's 70 year reign. Lunch will be included. Price **£48** (includes our guide, Nadia, coach and audio headphones).  
 Thursday, 30 June -  
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## Cafe Rendezvous Presents Songs from Stage and Screen

At Queen's Theatre on Monday, 23rd May in the Foyer at 7.30pm. Tickets available from Box Office 01708 443333 or online [www.queens-theatre.co.uk](http://www.queens-theatre.co.uk)

Jill Luff (vocals), Dominic Ashworth (guitar), Dorian Ford (piano), Alex Keene (double bass). Our musical evening will take you through well-known classics and songs from lesser known movies.

## Havering Antique Collectors' Club



Friday, 20th May - Mark Watson speaking on Archaeology - *"Beneath our Feet"*  
 Friday, 17th June - Anita Howard - *Toys of the 1940s and 1950s*.  
 Annual membership £30, guests £5. Harold Wood Neighbourhood Centre, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood 7.30pm for 8pm. Chairman Mrs Chris Lovett **07947 367258**.

## Wingletye Ladies Probus Luncheon Club

We are a friendly group of ladies, aged 50+, who meet at the Cranleigh Restaurant on the first Thursday of each month. We have a speaker before lunch at each meeting and a number of outings are arranged from time to time. At present we have a few VACANCIES and you are assured of a warm welcome if you wish to join us. For further details please contact the Secretary, Sheila Edwards on **01708 469235**.

## NCT Nearly New Sale

National Childbirth Trust (NCT) Havering are running their charity Nearly New Sale at Marshalls Park School in Romford on Saturday 14th May. Doors open at 10:15am. We sell baby clothes, equipment and toys. Please come along.

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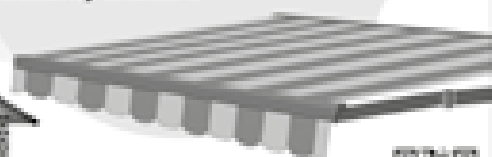
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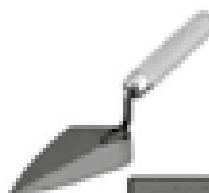


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## Havering Astronomical Society

Wednesday, 18 May, 7.15  
for 7.30pm - *Interstellar  
Communication*

To be presented by Roger  
O'Brien: regular speaker to the  
HAS and astronomy tutor at  
several institutions, including the  
Workers' Educational Association,  
the Open University, City Lit and  
the Royal Observatory Greenwich.  
Please email [enquiries@havaastro.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@havaastro.co.uk)  
or see the website  
[www.havaastro.co.uk](http://www.havaastro.co.uk).

**Young Astronomers** - Thursday,  
26th May 7-8pm. The Young  
Astronomers (aged 8-16) meet on  
the last Thursday of each month  
for talks and observing, enjoying  
a wide range of topics and  
interests. New members always  
welcome. Please email [young.astronomers@havaastro.co.uk](mailto:young.astronomers@havaastro.co.uk)  
for more information.

All meetings are held at Thames  
Chase, Pike Lane, Upminster.

## Havering & District National Trust Association

We meet at Ardleigh House,  
Hornchurch. RM11 2LG on the 4th  
Saturday of each month at 2.30pm.

You do not have to be a member  
of the National Trust to attend.  
Visitors £2 per meeting.

Next meeting 21st May, Talk &  
Plant sale - An Underground  
Guide to 1950s London.

For more information about the  
Association, please contact the  
secretary on [HaveringNTA@  
hotmail.com](mailto:HaveringNTA@hotmail.com) or 07939101802 or  
Anne on 01708 446593.

## GADABOUTS

A social/friendship club for single,  
widowed or divorced people aged  
40 to 70 years. We meet on the  
first Tuesday of the month at the

Havering Bowls Club, Harrow  
Lodge Park at 8pm. If you'd like  
more information please contact  
[gadabouts@live.co.uk](mailto:gadabouts@live.co.uk)

## Havering Local Group - monthly wildlife walk

Phyllis Currie Nature Reserve,  
Great Leighs, CM3 1PE. A walk  
to look for orchids and other  
wildflowers, dragonflies and  
butterflies. Meet in the car park in  
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2022 from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

It's free to take part and the  
walk will take about two hours.  
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## Liberty of Havering Outdoor Bowls Club

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throughout both days to give  
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449245 for more information. We  
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## Goodbye Ron Ower, but not forgotten

My colleague Chris and I were saddened by Ron's decision to step down as a Councillor this year. He is a very well known name in the ward, and has helped thousands of people over the years that he has been with the Residents' Association.

Ron has been interested in politics all his life, joining Newham Residents at the tender age of 17. We went to collect their electoral roll that election year, and was refused, as he was under 18.

I have known Ron for over 50 years, man and boy, but strangely he doesn't seem to have altered much over the years. In those days we only had Councillors in Cranham, and Ron used to pop along to our Upminster ward meetings before going on to the Cranham ones, to see if we had any problems that he could help us with. Even then Ron's commitment to the Association and the residents of our wards was clearly evident.

Secrets - well I know a few about Ron. Are readers aware he started

out as a DJ on Radio Caroline, and even called his daughter Caroline after the ship!

Whether in a colleague or resident capacity, or both, we've been lucky to have Ron on our side and having our back, supporting us and our community with a dedication and longevity that will be hard to match, while all the time being a supportive family man to his wife Jeannie, children and grandchildren.

But it's not goodbye - Ron could never retire gracefully - he'll still be behind the scenes, helping us and you out, so don't despair, you'll still see a lot of our Ron.

CLlr LINDA HAWTHORN

## Bring a Bottle

Upminster Station has seen a wide range of improvements over the years. I remember this Association requesting a permanent entrance onto Platform One to prevent car park users having to go all the way up to the main entrance. Interesting to see how well this entrance is used, you couldn't imagine it not being there. I was really pleased to see that a "water station" has been installed on Platform One. This is a welcome addition and really useful.

RON OWER



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## We Are FSTVL update

Residents' Association Councillors attended a public meeting in the New Windmill Hall in late March, held by the organisers of this year's We Are FSTVL.

This year's festival will be held at Damyns Hall Aerodrome on Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 August, but not on the preceding Friday, as has been the case in previous years. The change to August from

the normal dates in May is due to the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations putting a potential strain on police resources at that time.

It is due to open at midday on both days and close at 11pm, earlier than in previous years. Free buses from Upminster Station to the venue will run and road closures similar to 2019 will be in place. Residents will be able to apply for a permit to enter their road during restricted times.

*continued on page 22*



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Several members of the public raised concerns regarding road safety and anti-social behaviour on the route to the venue, and Councillors made points regarding ensuring as many people as possible use the free buses, rather than walk, and other similar matters.

Anyone with questions or concerns can e-mail the organisers via [residents@wearefstvl.com](mailto:residents@wearefstvl.com). We will keep residents informed of any updates we receive on our website and in The Bulletin.

UPMINSTER AND CRANHAM  
WARD COUNCILLORS

## Crocuses

It's nice to receive comments on how nice our park is in the centre of Upminster. A number of people have mentioned to us how nice the crocuses look on the eastern side of the park (Corbets Tey Road). The park has an active Friends Group.

## Upminster the place to be

In the last weekend of March amongst glorious weather, Upminster Town Centre saw a range of activity from an organisation called Havering Changing. Having secured funding Havering Changing are delivering a "Welcome Back" project which aims to encourage people back on to the high streets after the challenging times faced during the pandemic. Through art workshops and spectacular performances we saw extraordinary events and performances in the town centre

to create feelings of hope and a buzz of excitement - including circus, music, theatre and dance.

The performances and workshops took place in Station Road and Corbets Tey Road on the pavements outside shops, cafes and restaurants. Amongst the activities was a craft workshop, balloon modeller, face painter, Bollywood dancer, singer, stilt walkers in costumes and theatrical performances. The local Police team attended and with a number of people enjoying our award winning park and sitting outside in the sun having a drink many residents enjoyed the activities.

We really do have a wonderful Town Centre with a wide range of shops and restaurants etc.

RON OWER

## Maggie May, Queen's Theatre

An inspiring play about love, hope and living with dementia. Former Brookside star Eithne Browne and musical theatre favourite Tony Timberlake have been cast in Maggie May, a new play by award-winning writer Frances Poet that shines a light on the experience of living with dementia. An extraordinary play about an ordinary Leeds family learning to cope with a life-changing diagnosis. Written with honesty, beautifully balanced with humour and music, it is, ultimately, an uplifting story of love in all its guises.

Queen's Theatre Hornchurch from 24 - 28 May - Box Office: **01708 443333**.

## ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

<b>Commercial Advertising</b> Martin Flower 07785 244212 <a href="mailto:bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk">bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk</a>	<b>Bulletin Editor</b> Pauline Mastroianni <a href="mailto:mastroianni@btinternet.com">mastroianni@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Upminster Organiser</b> Chris Wilkins 07960 059 195 <a href="mailto:wilkinschristopher7@gmail.com">wilkinschristopher7@gmail.com</a>	<b>Cranham Organiser &amp; Residents' Association Website</b> John Tyler (07982 962925) <a href="http://www.ucra.co.uk">www.ucra.co.uk</a>

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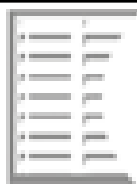
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