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UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Happy New Year!

I hope you have all had a great Christmas and wish you a very Happy New Year. The Association would also like to extend a very warm welcome to all the new households, that joined us in 2022. We are looking forward to working with and representing you in 2023. I would like to thank all our volunteers, who over the past year have continued to help produce and deliver The Bulletin, as well as collecting the 2022 subscriptions. The Bulletin will continue to support local organisations, and provide our residents with details regarding ongoing community and charity events. In May 2022, the Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association's 6 prospective Councillors stood in local elections in the Upminster and Cranham wards. In both the contested wards, Residents' Councillors were elected, and we would like to thank you all for supporting and voting for us in such large numbers. Again, it has been a busy and challenging year for UCRA, and we have been working with the local residents on a number of issues, including the proposed quarry in Rainham Lodge Farm, which we strongly object to being opened in Upminster. Finally, please do not hesitate to get in touch with any ideas or issues you would like us to take up on your behalf, or anything you would like to celebrate. Please all keep safe and I hope you all have a productive and great New Year.

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS - Chairman Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association

Proposed Quarry - Rainham Lodge Farm

Your local Councillors have still not heard whether a pre-planning, or a full planning, application has been submitted by Brett Aggregates, the business proposing to excavate in Rainham Lodge farm. However, we still have serious concerns regarding this matter. We have been in discussions with No Quarry, formally known as Quiet Not Quarry, as to how Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association (UCRA) can support them in jointly campaigning against the proposed quarry. We have made contact with members of the No Quarry community and they've shared with us that they are in immediate need of a retired qualified Accountant to act as their Treasurer. If anyone is interested in this role, can you please contact Sue Benjamins, Campaign Director for No Quarry. Sue's email address is suebenjamins@gmail.com. If you would like to find out more about No Quarry, or would like to help with the campaign against the quarry, please visit their website, or for more information you can contact them on info@noquarry.uk.

Cllrs OSCAR FORD, LINDA HAWTHORN and CHRIS WILKINS


Extending ULEZ into Havering

Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association Councillors recently voted against the introduction of ULEZ in Havering. All of the London Borough of Havering Councillors agreed that it would not be in the best interest for our residents and submitted a response to the Mayor of London's Consultation, outlining the reasons why. We are disappointed to hear that the Mayor of London will be bringing in ULEZ on the 29th August 2023. The Council has written to the Mayor to confirm our disappointment and will continue lobbying. The Administration are working with other outer London boroughs to see what measures can be taken to stop or delay the scheme.

Cllr GILLIAN FORD

Lodge Farm,
Park Farm Road,
Upminster, Essex,
RM14 2XU

We have been contacted by a number of local residents regarding the sale of Lodge Farm, which is situated in Park Farm Road, Upminster. The Farm, and the land, are owned by Essex County Council (ECC), and was recently marketed, but was not sold. We understand that ECC have put the sale of the Farm on hold for the time being. When we have more information regarding the above, we will update residents in further editions of the Bulletin.



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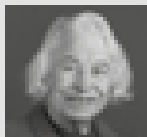
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Chris Wilkins 07960 059195



CouncillorChristopher.Wilkins@havering.gov.uk

CRANHAM WARD

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John Tyler 07982 962925



@CllrTyler

JohnTylerUCResidents@outlook.com

Phil Ruck 07858 188939



philruckucra@yahoo.com

Remembrance Day Parade in Upminster

Remembrance Day was commemorated in Upminster with the annual parade and service at the Upminster War Memorial in Corbets Tey Road. A large number of people attended to show their thanks for those who served in both World Wars and subsequent conflicts. Cllr John Tyler laid a wreath on behalf of the Mayor of Havering and Mike Long (Secretary) laid a wreath on behalf of the Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association.



Association AGM

Kindly note the Annual General Meeting of the Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association will be held on Monday, 20th February starting at 7pm. Venue details will be in next month's Bulletin.

Subscriptions

We are currently collecting annual subscriptions at only £2 per household. Whilst we hope to cover the cost of The Bulletin through advertising, which we generally do, we need funds to cover any legal bills to fight any problems on your behalf. If you are out we will leave an envelope. Please return this to the address on the front. A number of residents have indicated they are happy to pay by cheque and increase their donation. Any cheques should be made to Upminster & Cranham Residents' Association. We take an active interest in supporting you and will continue to do so. We are active all the time, not just election times.

Your Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association Councillors are on facebook

For Upminster search: 'UCRA Oscar Ford'

For Cranham search: 'UCRA Phil Ruck'

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How to get involved in the Lower Thames Crossing (LTC) Planning Review process

National Highways formally submitted their Planning Application for the LTC to the Planning Inspectorate at the end of October and the Inspectorate accepted the draft **Development Consent Order (DCO)** for **Examination** on the 28th November 2022. There follows a period when representations by individuals and organisations can be made during the Examination period.

National Highways (NH) will be advertising this **Relevant Representation** period (at least 28 days), stating the deadline, and providing details about how to register to become an **Interested Party**. They expect the registration period to take place early in the New Year. The public and third

parties can find out about the registration period from any of the following:

- The applicant's newspapers advert;
- The applicant's site notice;
- Information on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website; <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/lower-thames-crossing/#>
- Via Twitter or email alert if you have signed up for this service on the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

During the registration period the easiest way to become an Interested Party is to complete the form online via the relevant project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website. Interested Parties are invited to a **Preliminary Meeting** to consider how the application will be Examined. Before the Meeting, the Examining Authority will provide a draft Examination Timetable plus its initial assessment of principal issues. The Examination starts the day after the Preliminary Meeting and can last up to 6

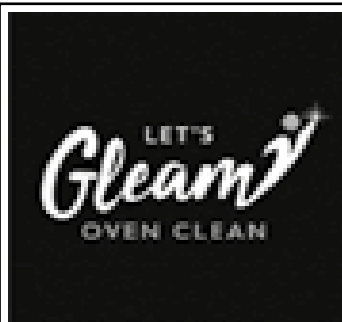
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months. During the 6 month Examination, Interested Parties will be invited to attend the **Hearings** (Issue Specific and Open Floor), provide written responses to the Examiner's Questions and written representations. There is no cross examination process in DCO Hearings and the process is focussed on the written submissions.

CLlr OSCAR FORD

Council emergency number

Kindly note the Council's out of hours emergency number is 01708 433999. Please try and give the post code for where the problem is or as much information as possible. The office hours number is 01708 434343.

Warm Spaces in Havering

Havering Council have published a list of Warm Spaces available for people to visit this winter if they are struggling to keep warm at

home. To see the list visit www.havering.gov.uk and enter 'warm spaces' in the search box. All of Havering's libraries, plus Sapphire Ice and Leisure in Romford and Harrow Lodge Leisure Centre in Hornchurch, are also providing space for residents to stay warm during opening hours.

Children's Self-Defence courses

These courses are for children who will start to walk to and from school without their parents (school years 5, 6, 7 & 8), or those who are now going out alone with friends for the first time. We teach the children about situational awareness, safety on public transport, how to deal with dangerous situations and how to control their fear and develop a positive mindset. We also teach easy to learn and pressure tested self-defence techniques to be used when there is no other choice available.

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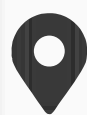


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The UBC shed is a collaborative workspace where men can work on practical projects and share in their hobbies with others. Men are welcome from anywhere in Havering. The idea draws on the successful Men's Shed movement in Australia where nearly 1000 sheds have opened since 2007. UBC Men's Shed is part of a growing movement and joins of one of the hundreds of Men's Shed's that currently exist in the UK.

Our new meeting day is Wednesday 1pm- 4:40pm

Upminster Baptist Church, 1 Springfield Gardens, Upminster, RM14 3HE

Our shed is equipped with tools and materials that have been generously donated by the public and local rotary. We are mainly a woodworking community although we're happy to try our hand at almost anything. You can drop in anytime the shed is operating so why not stop by for a look around and a decent cuppa; we'd love to have you working alongside us.

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Christmas card competition for Pinney Talfourd Solicitors

Pinney Talfourd was delighted to once again team up with Corbets Tey School for their annual 'Design a Christmas Card Competition 2022'. Children from all ages were invited to design a Christmas card to be judged where the winner and runner up

designs were used to create the firm's final Christmas card to be sent to clients and contacts. The winner was selected by a poll where all staff members were invited to vote.

Ben of Maple Class was the winner with his Robin design. The runner up was **Amber from Palm Class** with her Rudolph design.



The winning design

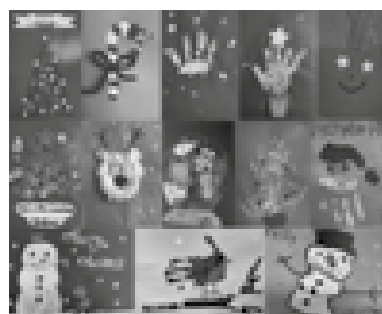
The winner received a £30 gift voucher and Pinney Talfourd also provided prizes for the best card voted from each class.

The Residents' Association of Upminster and Cranham support this project every year sponsoring the prize for the runner-up. Client Services Partner, Catherine Polli, said "We look forward to receiving the children's Christmas card designs in what has become a Pinney Talfourd tradition. Thank you to all of the children and staff for their time and effort. We would also like to thank the Residents' Association for their continued involvement in this community project each year."

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Some of the other great designs.

Extending ULEZ into Havering

The Mayor of London's decision to extend the current ULEZ area to include all areas within the M25, will effect many residents in our area and we have received numerous emails and calls voicing your opposition to this additional tax which will have a devastating effect on many. This decision was made despite the public consultation which concluded that most residents did not want the charge. We feel betrayed and let down by not only the Mayor for his lack of consultation and total ignorance of the public opinion, but also for the Greater London Assembly

who surely had to agree with this in advance and gave us no prior knowledge or opportunity to defend. Neither our local Greater London Assembly representative or MPs have been able to help convince the Mayor that this is not needed or wanted in Havering. The HRA are coordinating an appeal to the Mayor along with other outer London boroughs and we have contacted him to explain just why this will not work in Havering with our poor outdated and inadequate transport system. Please help us and Havering to lobby the Mayor to change his mind by emailing him direct to explain just why you think Havering should not be subject to this unfair charge. Let us hope that common sense will prevail and we achieve a reversal of this ridiculous proposal.

Cllr LAURANCE GARRARD

Feeding the Birds

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continued on page 7

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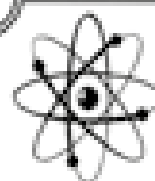


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Allan Carey

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find. The ground during winter is too hard for birds to dig for worms and grubs stay well-hidden, hibernating in vegetation. This along with the limited hours of light in which birds can actively search for food can cause them to be very vulnerable during winter. But we can lend a helping hand by providing a welcome source of extra food for birds to turn to in leaner time. Birds require high-energy foods during the winter to maintain their fat reserves to survive the frosty nights. It's important to use good quality food such as

- Suitable seeds and grains
 - Net-free fat or suet balls
 - Over-ripe apples and raisins
- You can place food inside hanging feeders, upon feeding tables, or scattered at ground level.

Local Council Budget Consultation

By the time you read this, the Chancellor of The Exchequer would have presented his Budget at the end of November. We were warned before his

announcements that we would be paying more tax and there would be spending cuts. Speaking to local residents they are very upset over the antics of our National Government. Here in Havering our Government grants have drastically been reduced over the years. Our Resident Councillors have pointed out the problems Havering Council are facing in recent Bulletin articles. The Leader of the Havering Residents Association, Councillor Ray Morgon, has sent out an urgent message to Havering Residents saying that the Council is facing a funding crisis. Ray has pointed out the that the Council are facing a funding gap of £70 million over the next four years. Government funding has been slashed to just £1.5 million today from £70 million in 2010. Inflation threatens to add £10 million in extra unfunded costs to Council services. Demand for services helping vulnerable adults and children which the Council must provide by law-is going up. In a letter to Havering Residents Ray also points out that Residents in much more well-funded parts of London like Westminster pay much less. The Council has launched its budget consultation

for 2023-24 asking for residents' views on the Council's spending proposals for next year. There is an online survey at www.havering.gov.uk/budget23 or paper questionnaires can be completed and dropped into the consultation ballot boxes at your local library. There are a number of significant changes proposed to Council services and I urge you to take part in this consultation. Also please write to your local Member of Parliament and demand that Havering Council gets fairer funding.

RON OWER

The Wesley Players Present – 'Jack and The Beans Talk'

Poor Jack, sent to market by his wicked stepmother to sell their cow, he gets tricked into accepting a handful of beans. But what's this? He has an old lamp in his rucksack and we all know what happens if you rub an old lamp! Suddenly the beans come to life and he meets

all sorts of weird and wonderful characters, Puss, The Big Bad Wolf, Canderella, an officious policeman, and two halves of a panto horse. Can these people help him find true love and happiness? Can he help them or will his wicked stepmother track him down?

Join us for a fantastically original, funny and ridiculously silly pantomime suitable for the whole family written by Trevor Povey. Performances: are at 8pm on Thursday, 26th and Friday, 27th January at 1.30pm, 4.30pm and 8pm on Saturday, 28th January at Wesley Hall, Upminster Methodist Church, 10, Hall Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 1AE.

Tickets are available on the door: £10 Adults, £8 for concessions and £6 for children (up to 16). As usual Senior Citizens are admitted free on the Thursday and Friday evening shows. We accept card payments on the

door and there is a discount if you book direct through our website. www.wesley-players.co.uk. Alternatively, you can reserve tickets by Text to Box Office on 07708 214 742 or email tickets@wesley-players.co.uk.

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Thames Chase

Happy New Year from everyone at Thames Chase. This month we are pleased to announce the launch of a programme of Heritage Walks through the Community Forest. We do hope you can join us to explore the extraordinary built and natural heritage of your local area and its connection with green space here in Havering.

Our first walk will be January 6th at 10.30am for a guided circular walk covering local historical points of interest including: All Saints Church, Cranham Hall, The Chase, Cranham Marshes and Nature Reserve. This walk will begin and end at the Forest Centre and will last 1.5 - 2 hours. Please wear suitable clothing, refreshments will be served at the Forest Centre at the end of the walk. To register your interest please call the Forest Centre reception: **01708 642970**.

Our popular monthly Sunday Markets also return on January 15th, 10am - 3pm showcasing the very best in local crafts and produce. You can keep up to date with news and events at the Forest Centre and throughout Thames Chase on our website: www.thameschase.org.uk and by following us on social media.

Queen's Theatre

We are very lucky to have the Queen's Theatre locally. They have some magnificent shows planned for this month onwards. Please keep an eye on their website www.queens-theatre.co.uk where you will see details of a huge variety of shows.

Harwood Equestrian Centre

The Council has received the following Planning Application at the Harwood Equestrian Centre, Harwood Hall Lane, Upminster for "demolition of existing buildings and construction of 9 new dwellings and associated development" on Reference P 1768.22. Full details are available by looking up Planning Searches on the Havering Council website. Kindly note this has been called in by Upminster Councillors, on the grounds it would generate extra traffic on an already busy road and noise and disturbance to the nearby nursing home. The Planning Committee will have the opportunity to consider all of the

concerns before a decision on the proposal is made.

Hornchurch and Upminster in the 1960's

I know that YouTube videos are not normally highlighted in the Bulletin, but I recently came across one showing interesting home footage of Hornchurch and Upminster in the 1960's, including Upminster Windmill and Clockhouse Gardens. The video is available via www.youtube.com/watch?v=z69f6-7U10Y.

DAVID TYLER

3rd Upminster Scout Group - Adult volunteers needed

The 3rd Upminster Scout Group, has a 91 year history of providing fun and adventure for young people of Upminster, and we are a successful and large group in a good financial position. We meet at and are sponsored by

Upminster Methodist Church and Trinity United Reformed Church.

We currently need more adult support across our 5 sections (Beavers 6-8, Cubs 8-10.5, Scouts 10.5-14). This could be in a leader or assistant role in one of our sections, or a support role helping with administration, equipment, Group HQ or Group Executive. Our associated Explorer Scout Unit (14-18) also needs adult support. Appropriate training and support will be provided by experienced leaders.

We can also support young leaders (14-18) in support of Duke of Edinburgh service elements in our sections and as part of our District programme.

Our Cub Scout Pack meeting at Trinity URC on Tuesday evenings (6.30pm - 8pm) currently has space for young people aged 8-10.5 years old wishing to join.

Please contact 3rdups.scouts@gmail.com if you can offer any help or would like to make a joining enquiry for a young person.

MARK SCRACE,
Group Scout Leader

ADAM WOODGATE,
Deputy Group Scout Leader

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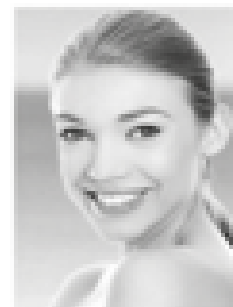
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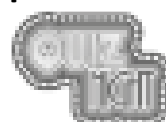
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7pm for a 7.30pm start



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Travelling to Romford

Whilst we are aware the 248 and 370 buses go to Romford via Hornchurch, may we remind you that the twice an hour "push and pull" trains from Upminster via Emerson Park Station only takes around 8 minutes. Why try and struggle to find a parking place when the train is so fast.

Sleeping Beauty Panto

All Saints Players' present their forthcoming production Sleeping Beauty, by Alan P Frayn. Journey to Muddleby on Marsh and watch the story unfold of Princess Rose and the spell to send her to sleep for a 100 years. Join Nurse Hettie Harpic, a puddle-brained handyman and two hapless heralds along with royalty, fairies and an evil witch in a pantomime for all the family.

All Saints Church Hall, Ardleigh Green Road, Hornchurch, RM11 2LG. Performances are at 8pm on Thursday 26 and Friday 27 January 2023 and at 2.30pm and 8pm on Saturday 28 January. Doors open at

7.30pm for evening performances and 2pm for the Saturday matinee.

Price: £7.50. Contact the Box Office on **01708 456683** or email boxoffice@allsaintsplayers.org.uk

for tickets. Information is also available at www.allsaintsplayers.org.uk

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- If you see someone acting suspiciously around a vehicle, report it immediately to the police via 999.

For further advice visit the Met Police website - www.met.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/catalytic-converter-theft/

Cllr JOHN TYLER

FA Cup

We regularly share details of our local football team's home fixtures, who have sadly just lost at home to Oxford City. However interesting to see that a number of non-league teams are still having a cup run. One being Chesterfield the "Spireites", but why mention this team from sunny Derbyshire? Many locals will have fond memories of Tim and his wife Clare, the first managing team at The Crumpled Horn Pub, Corbets Tey Road. Tim was a very keen Chesterfield supporter and following a mention in The Bulletin he gathered a number of other local fans to travel north to see the team play. I understand a number still travel up to Chesterfield and I wonder how many went to see them beat AFC Wimbledon 2 - 0 in November in the third round of the Emirates

FA Cup? Chesterfield are at home to The Baggies ie West Bromwich Albion on Saturday the 7th this month.

RON OWER

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HSBC Bank

On the 30th November just as the December Bulletins started going out, HSBC Bank announced that they are closing 114 Branches in 2023. Sadly the Hornchurch Branch at 173 High Street is amongst them. This follows the closure several years ago of the popular branch in Station Road, Upminster. This news will not be welcomed for a large number of local residents who currently use the Hornchurch Branch. This now leaves a visit to Romford or Brentwood if you wish to use an HSBC branch.

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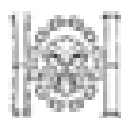
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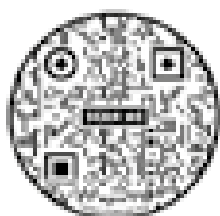
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Haverling Council's Empty Homes Project

Haverling Council have recently launched their Empty Homes Project, which is helping to locate empty properties and bring them back into use. These can be in any condition, as the Council have various options to make them viable housing again.

Haverling residents are encouraged to let the Council know about any empty properties they know of by visiting www.haverling.gov.uk and entering 'report empty properties' in the search box, e-mailing landlordlicensing@haverling.gov.uk or phoning 01708 432 006.

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Xmas CraziFest 2022 - Thank you

Thank you to all the good people of Upminster and Cranham who turned up and supported our Brain Tumour Charity - The Judy D'Crux Fund fundraiser. The Cranham Community Centre was packed for this sell out event. On the night we raised £3,626 and now the Judy D'CRUZ fund stands at £70,315. Thank you to all the musicians who practiced hard and performed so, so well. Thank you to our main sponsors Wagstaff Plumbing, Touch of Glass and Bells Blinds all of whom have been supporting us for some years now. But biggest thanks to the people who make up our community. We continue the fight to raise money to find a cure

for this deadly disease. It's the biggest cancer killer of children and young people under the age of 40. See more about what we do at www.judydcruz.com

WIN D'CRUZ,
Ambassador, Brain Tumour

UCRA Coach outing news

Happy New Year. We will be running a full programme of coach trips this year starting with the Thriplow Daffodil Festival planned for Saturday, 25th March 2023 followed by some of your favourite destinations such as Faversham, Whitstable and Broadstairs and some exciting new destinations and events such as The Battle Prom picnic concert that takes place in the grounds of Hatfield House in July.

We have a huge response to our trips and it's great to see so many familiar and new faces on our very popular outings. For information and availability on our trips why not join our mailing list or give us a call.

Contact gina.savill-turner@email.com; tel 07958 006503 or 01708 228270

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Hornchurch Football Club

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Saturday, 14th January -
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Saturday, 28th January - **Aveley**
Saturday, 11th February -
Potters Bar Town.
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Upminster Park Rovers under 9s Yellow Team - match mascots

continued on page 15

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Upminster Park Rovers Under 9s Yellow Team were mascots at the recent Hornchurch Football Club home fixture with Wingate & Finchley. Hornchurch won 2 - 0.

Bogus caller advice and Trading Standards help

A bogus callers awareness meeting was held in Havering in November, where Graham Knox from Havering Trading Standards gave an update, including the sort of help that Havering Trading Standards may be able to give if you or someone you know is being targeted by scammers. For details of the information Graham gave, visit our website www.ucra.co.uk and enter 'bogus caller advice' in the search box.

Players Wanted

Emh Hawks under 15s based in Hornchurch are looking for strong players to add to its already strong squad. We are currently in the Echo division A and have fully qualified UEFA West Ham coaches. Please contact Tony on **07521 800390** for further details.

Roomes Stores

Shopping in our town centres has certainly changed since James Roome opened up the first Roomes Store in 1888 in Green Street, Upton Park. Roomes opened up their first store on

the western side of Station Road in 1927. Further information on their history is available on various websites including www.roomesfashionandhome.co.uk which also gives details of what is available at the Fashion and Home store at 41- 49 Station Road. Interesting to see the new layout of the menswear and womenswear departments who are thrilled to see the addition of the Mint Velvet ladies brand. The store still has its restaurant which is open every day.

Across the road at 22-24 Station Road the Furniture and Interiors Store which opened in 2001 is housed in a magnificent building. Their website is www.roomes.co.uk Keep an eye on their website for any special offers and events.

Further details on the Roomes Furniture and Interiors can be seen on their ad on page 7.

There is a magnificent display of photos showing the history of Roomes going from the ground floor to the first floor in the Fashion and Home Store... go and have a look. Whilst there treat yourself to a meal or a drink in the restaurant on the second floor.

RON OWER

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. Just a reminder that a water station has been installed on platform one - a welcome addition.

RON OWER

OUT AND ABOUT - CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Upminster Lymphoma and other Blood Cancer Support Group

We are an independent support group and if you, or anyone you know, have received a blood cancer diagnosis and wish to be involved with others in a similar position who have this shared experience, then why not join our friendly support group. We meet monthly at 1.30pm on a Tuesday afternoon at Upminster Baptist Church, Springfield Gardens, with a full program of interesting speakers and time to chat too. Partners and carers are also most welcome. For more information please get in touch.

Doreen & Ian Russell -
Ian.doreen@btinternet.com

Denise Hosking -
Denise.hosking@gmail.com

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Havering U3A meets at 2.15pm, on the second Wednesday of the month at a new venue - Romford Baptist Church hall, Main Road, RM1 3BL. Interest groups run throughout the month. Doors open 2pm.

For more information come along or see our website:

u3asites.org.uk/havering

The Old Chapel Tea & Talk

Wednesday, 11th January - **Michael Gilbert** will present an illustrated talk '*A Tonic to the Nation London 1951 and the Festival of Britain*'. The festival was organised to mark the centenary of the Great Exhibition of 1851. It was intended to demonstrate Britain's contribution to civilisation, past, present, and future, in the arts, in science and technology, and in industrial design.

Wednesday, 8th February - '*Miss Willmott's Ghosts: the extraordinary life and gardens of a forgotten genius*'. Journalist and author **Sandra Lawrence** has spent seven years researching Ellen Willmott of Warley Place discovering new aspects of her life.

Email: friendsoldchapel@mary.havering.sch.uk

Rooke Hall, Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster.

Doors open at 10am - talk starts

continued on page 17



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The Arts Society, Havering

Our January talk will be Cubism Explained, by Steven Barrett. Cubism can be confusing. Cubism needs simply to be explained for its beauty to be appreciated. This lecture sets out clearly and succinctly the theory behind Cubism.

Taking place on Tuesday, 10th January at 10.30 am at the New Windmill Hall, Upminster.

Visitors welcome for a fee of £8. Please visit our website <https://tashavering.org.uk/Lectures/FutureLectures.aspx>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/199870022175485>

or contact us at info@tashavering.org.uk, or telephone **01708 221903**.

Essex Wildlife Trust, Havering - indoor meetings

Blue House Farm Nature Reserve, Saturday, 4 February 2023 from 10am - 12.30pm. Join us for a walk around Blue House Farm nature reserve, hopefully seeing some of the wintering waterfowl and some of the autumn migrants. North Fambridge, Essex CM3 6GU, meet at the car park.

The walks are free and suitable for families and adults. Dogs permitted on the public footpath along the sea wall, but not on the reserve. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear.

Booking **Terry Smith** tel: **07802212151** or email ts15457@netscape.net

Upminster and District Probus Club

Have you ever thought of joining a gentlemen's club? Are you wondering if you would fit in? Why not come along to one of our lunch meetings, held at the Cranleigh Restaurant, Hornchurch, and find out for yourself? You can be sure of a warm welcome. We also periodically run outings to places of interest.

If you wish to attend you will need to book your lunch in advance by telephoning our Lunch Secretary, **Robert Langstone** on **01708 226705** or emailing him at upminsterprobus.lunch@gmail.com. A three course lunch costs just £20, payable at the meeting. Find us on <https://upminsterprobussec.wixsite.com/upminster-probus>

Essex Wildlife Trust, Havering - indoor meetings

Monday, 9th January - **Wildlife photography** as seen by Tony on his travels throughout the UK.

Meetings held at Fairkytes Arts Centre, Billet Lane, Hornchurch RM11 1AX. Donation £3. 2.15pm - 3.45pm. Contact / Booking **Joy Emerson**, Secretary **07759 869910** or Email joyem.109@gmail.com

Yoga and Meditation at Hornchurch Library

Yoga and Meditation classes are back at Hornchurch Library. Join us on Wednesday mornings, between 10.30am to 11.30am. All abilities are welcome, no previous experience necessary. Sessions

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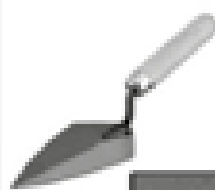
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Havering Astronomical Society

Wednesday, 18th January, 7.15
for 7.30pm. **Nick James**, Director
of the British Astronomical
Association's Comet Section,
will present a talk entitled
**'Optical tracking of distant
spacecraft.'** This will be followed
by refreshments and a short
members talk. Meetings held
at Thames Chase, Pike Lane,
Upminster. If you are interested in
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Young Astronomers (aged 8-16)
- Thursday, 26th January 7-8pm.
Meetings held at Thames Chase,
Pike Lane, Upminster. There is a
mix of space news, talks observing
when possible. Please email
young.astronomers@havastro.co.uk
co.uk for further details.

Music Afternoons at Hornchurch Library

The music afternoons return on
Wednesday, 18th January with
our programme to welcome the
New Year and a wide selection
of recorded music for your
enjoyment. We will then continue
on a fortnightly basis until the
summer. In February we will be
meeting on the 1st and 15th. Our
music afternoons take place in the
main meeting room, 1st floor at
Hornchurch Library, North Street,
Hornchurch and commence at
2pm ending by 4pm. Admission is
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There is a lift for access to the
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52 Weeks in the Shade Garden

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garden? The Upminster &
District Horticultural Society's
lecture on January 10th will
explain all. We have Lynne Moore
who runs a family nursery in
Billericay specialising in shade
tolerant and woodland plants.
She confesses to be a plantaholic,

always looking for something
new. The nursery has been
growing plants for sale since 2004
and regularly exhibits at RHS
shows.

Join us in the Windmill Hall Doors
open at 7.15 pm. The evening
will start at 7.45 pm with our
Annual General Meeting shortly
followed by our lecture. There
will be refreshments during the
interval and a raffle at the end of
the evening closing at 9.45pm.
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

Saturday Talks Club

Saturday, 14th January - **The
Kingdom of the EaStSaXe**.
Speaker is **Julian Whybra**. Venue
is Roope Hall, Trinity United
Reformed Church, Station Road,
Upminster from 2-4pm. Doors
open 1.45. £5 including tea
and biscuits. Enquiries to **Mrs
B Bland 07951217930 / 01689
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We share your concerns

It is fair to say that many residents have been uneasy at some of the measures taken by Havering Council in recent months, such as the re-introduction of short-stay parking charges in some town-centres and suggestions that bi-weekly refuse collections may be introduced. I would like to re-assure people that I and many of my Councillor colleagues, share your concerns. I have been assured by members of Havering' Council's Administration that ways are being looked at to try to re-introduce some form of short-term free parking in Upminster Town centre and that changes to waste and recycling collections are something that will be considered as part of the Government's forthcoming new requirements for Councils to recycle more waste, and will not necessarily mean that the weekly black and orange sack collections will change.

Local Residents' Association Councillors, such as myself, who are not part of the decision-making process in Havering Council, will continue to scrutinise decisions made and work to protect our important local services, in what are

undoubtedly difficult times financially for Havering Council and many other Councils across the country.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Christmas Event

Over the years we have been pretty lucky with the weather - sadly this year was an exception. The children's' rides were set up at The Bell School along with an elfie trail where children get a card stamped to get a gift from the elves. Various stalls, Waitrose with free mince pies, Bedrock Radio with their Christmas music, Father Christmas with reindeer, (aka John Mylod and dog Teddy) the Mayor in his robes, then the heavens opened and rain stopped play - with the gazebos roofs filling with water. The only sensible option was to cancel the event early. We are very sorry for those who put in so much effort, but sadly we are all held hostage to the weather - we can only hope for better conditions this year. If you wish to participate in this year's event get in touch.

Cllrs OSCAR FORD, LINDA
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Upminster crime update

At the Upminster Police ward meeting on the 8th November we were provided with crime figures available for the 3 months from August to October. Residential burglaries, a total of 2 during these three months, a reduction from 7 in the same period in 2021. Commercial burglaries had a slight increase this year from 5 to 6. These included the theft of a mini digger stolen from the Cemetery as well as a Fork Lift from a farm in Clay Tye Road.

Theft of vehicles remains at a worrying high. This has increased from 8 to 14 since 2021, although theft from vehicles has reduced from 11 to 6. Theft of vehicles is increasing across most wards and remains a ward priority for the next period. Havering wide Police action is ongoing to deter these thefts. The incidence of keyless vehicle theft is of significant concern, often high value vehicles. Police strongly advise to put keys into a Faraday bag to prevent the ability of criminals to gain access to vehicles and to use a strong steering lock, properly fitted, to deter criminals. Drug possession has reduced slightly from 2021, from 6 to 2 in 2022. If you see a

crime in operation call **999**, report non-urgent crime on **101**.

LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Environment Agency inspect River Ingrebourn

Following contact by Cranham ward councillors, the Environment Agency agreed to inspect the River Ingrebourn in the vicinity of the Dury Falls Estate, as residents had reported small trees and large branches in the river following storms earlier in the year. This area is vulnerable to flooding during periods of heavy rainfall and potential obstructions may exacerbate the problem. The Environment Agency also promised to update Councillors with any action they needed to take following the inspection.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Police speed check

Following several requests from a resident living in Park Drive, a speed check was conducted on the 15th November at 8.45am. During an hour, the number of

continued on page 22



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vehicles checked was 70 with an average speed of 25 MPH. There were 63 vehicles travelling at less than 30 MPH, 7 travelling between 31-35 MPH and none travelling above 36 MPH. As can be seen by these results, the speed on this occasion was not excessive and most were adhering to the 30 MPH speed limit or below. Officers were accompanied on the check by a member of the Upminster Police ward panel. Further speed checks will be conducted as police resources are available.

LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Hall Lane Playing Fields: Dog Walkers

The Hall Lane Playing Fields is a great place for dog walkers. However, other users have highlighted the increasing amount of dogs' mess on the pitches and surrounding area. Not only is this an eyesore and a health hazard, but particularly unpleasant for players and spectators to deal with. We realise that the vast majority of dog walkers act responsibly, however, to the small minority who don't, could you please be respectful of others and mindful of your duty to clean up after your dog, especially when it is off the lead and out of sight and easy to ignore.

SECRETARY,
Friends Hall Lane Playing Fields

Upminster Police meetings

Please note the following dates to meet with the local Police Safer Neighbourhood Team at Upminster Library, Corbets Tey Road on 13th January from 4pm to 5pm and 23rd January 11am to 12pm. Go along and say hello.

5th Upminster Guides – welcomes new members

We are a very friendly group who meet at St Peters Hall, Front Lane, Cranham on Thursday evenings, 7pm to 8.30pm. Forthcoming events include visits to the pantomime and cinema. Our evenings during term time are busy with craft, cooking, badge work and much, much more. Girls aged ten to fourteen are warmly invited to join us for a taster evening. Please ring Diane **01708 558165** for more information.

Our website

Please look out for our website ucra.co.uk. Councillor John Tyler does an excellent job regularly updating the site and sharing really useful news.

Upminster Councillor Surgery

Please note that the Upminster Councillors' ward surgery will be held on 9th January at Caffe Gelato, 99 Corbets Tey Road, opposite Stewart Avenue between 10 to 11am. We would be pleased to see you and listen to your concerns and ideas. In the meantime, if you need to contact us our contact details are on page 2.

Cllrs OSCAR FORD, LINDA HAWTHORN AND CHRIS WILKINS

Tell us what you think

Do you know of a way in which we can improve our services? If so please inform us by contacting your ward Councillors via the details on page 2. Of course it may be that you are not happy with the way a Council decision was made or perhaps the way a service is run. The Council operates in a similar way to Westminster in that it has an appointed cabinet, however there is an Overview & Scrutiny Committee, of which I am vice-chair, which

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can review decisions and the way services operate and make recommendations to cabinet to address any changes required. If you know of any areas that you feel warrant such attention please do get in contact.

Cllr PHIL RUCK

Weekly planning list on our websites

Just a reminder that every week Havering Council publishes a list of planning applications received within the previous seven days. It was highlighted to local Councillors that the Council often only sends notice of applications to a very limited number of nearby premises, so we publish a link to the list on our website each week - ucra.co.uk.

Twittering Tyler!

Our own Councillor John Tyler has a Twitter page, with news of some of the things happening in Cranham ward and his own personal take on local politics and occasionally, the wider world. He is also happy to receive messages from residents via his account [@CllrTyler](https://twitter.com/CllrTyler)


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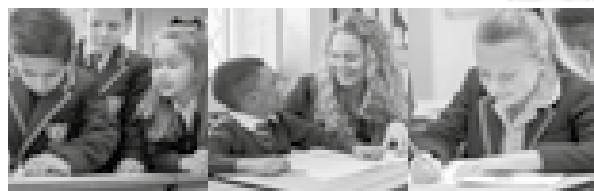
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