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UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Return of 30 minutes free parking in Council car parks

The first Budget, under Havering's new Administration, was set out in February. The proposed budget will see the return of the 30 minutes free parking across Hornchurch and Upminster. Following the 30 minute free period, parking will have to be paid for, please note prices will be higher than this financial year. These increases have been the result of severe financial pressure Havering is facing due to the lack of funding from Central Government, which we have covered in previous editions of The Bulletin. Your local Residents' Association Councillors have been campaigning for years for the free parking to be returned which was removed by the previous Conservative Administration. Your Residents' Association have continued to support local business through their "Shop Local" campaign, and the introduction of the free parking should encourage more trade, and provide a boost for local businesses.

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

Hoppy Hall Car Park - New Barrier

As mentioned in previous editions of The Bulletin, there has been ongoing Anti- Social Behaviour (ASB) in the Hoppy Hall car park. This has included the barrier being damaged on a number of occasions. Measures were introduced by the Council to reduce the ASB, which included installing CCTV, as well as upgrading the lights. In addition, following a recent campaign by local Councillors and residents, the Council has installed a new robust barrier. Please note, the car park shuts at 8pm and if you do not remove your vehicle it will be locked in the car park overnight.

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

Say No to Quarry

We have reported a number of times that the Canterbury based Brett Aggregates wish to open and excavate at Rainham Lodge Farm on land off Berwick Pond Road, Upminster. Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association are in touch with the "No Quarry" action group. There is considerable concern in the community over this proposal. As we go to press, Havering Council has not received a planning application. As soon as we get any news we will be in touch and this will also go onto our website ucra.co.uk and The Action Groups' website noquarry.uk

Your help needed

If you could assist delivering around 40 Bulletins in Upminster each month please contact me. Also if you could drop off Bulletins to 4/5 of our deliverers. Help us to help you. If you can assist please contact me on **07908 916119** or email gjo.anastasi@hotmail.com or bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk.

Contacting Your Councillors



Please note contact details for your Residents' Association Councillors are on Page 2. Cranham ward is represented by

Gillian Ford, Phil Ruck and John Tyler.

Cranham ward is north of Upminster Station including the Dury Falls Estate.

Upminster ward is represented by **Oscar Ford, Linda Hawthorn and Chris Wilkins.**

Upminster ward is south of Upminster Station including the Cranham Cathedral Estate and North Ockendon

Subscriptions

Have you paid your £2 annual subscription for the UC&RA? 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.

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

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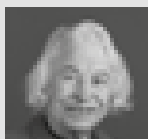
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ASSOCIATION COUNCILLORS

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oforducra@gmail.com

Chris Wilkins 07960 059195



CouncillorChristopher.Wilkins@havering.gov.uk

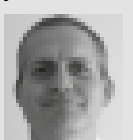
CRANHAM WARD

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councillorgillian.ford@havering.gov.uk

John Tyler 07982 962925



@CllrTyler

JohnTylerUCResidents@outlook.com

Phil Ruck 07858 188939



philruckucra@yahoo.com

details here 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 on Overview & Scrutiny Committee, of which I am vice-chair, which 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

Warm Spaces Initiative at churches in Upminster and Cranham

Local churches who are members of 'Churches Together Upminster, Cranham and North Ockendon', have compiled the following list of activities that they offer the community as part of the 'Warm Spaces' initiative. They offer a warm welcome to any of their

churches during the current financial pressure.

For details of the times and venues see the UCRA website - ucra.co.uk and enter warm spaces in the search box.

Proposed Station Road, Upminster development

We regularly give out details of planning applications submitted to Havering Council. The weekly application lists can be viewed on our websites ucra.co.uk and raep.co.uk. As reported in the December Bulletin, the Council had received a planning application on Reference P1585.22 for 82 room hotel and commercial unit, including the Costa Coffee outlet at the former Time-Tees Garage site in Station Road, Upminster, currently being used as car wash. Council Officers under delegated powers refused Planning Permission. Full details can be seen on the Havering Council Planning Search by putting in Reference P1585.22.

ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

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Upminster Organiser Gio Anastasi 07908 916119 gio.anastasi@hotmail.com	Cranham Organiser & Residents' Association Website John Tyler (07982 962925) www.ucra.co.uk

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Upminster Windmill – what's happening?

Readers may have noticed activity at the mill since December and we are delighted that work on the last phase of the restoration is finally underway. Our Dutch millwright has been back on site after delays beyond our control. The mill had ceased working commercially in the early 1930s and now our iconic windmill is close to being back to full working order – thanks to the Lottery Heritage Funding and a grant from Veolia Environmental Trust together with the hard work of our volunteers.

To open the mill to the public, Friends of Upminster Windmill will be recruiting an army of volunteers from across all backgrounds and age ranges to grow our friendly and welcoming team. There are various roles including guides and stewards for the mills; assisting within the visitor centre including retail; education and outreach and many more. Appropriate training and support will be provided for all

roles.

Could we please ask you to spread the word and encourage people to come forward?

Open Day for anyone interested in volunteering will be held on Sunday 12th March from 10am – 4pm at the visitor centre (next to the windmill) – an opportunity to find out more about the various roles without any obligation.

Information can be found on the website: www.upminsterwindmill.org where there is also a link for people to register their interest in volunteering or messages can be left on the answerphone **0300 030 1803**.

Pay & Display Machines

Following many calls regarding out of action parking machines, please note the following information our Councillors have received from the Council:

"The Pay & Display machines are checked regularly by car park officers. Where a fault is identified they will endeavour to repair while on site, however if they are unable to repair the machine at that time,

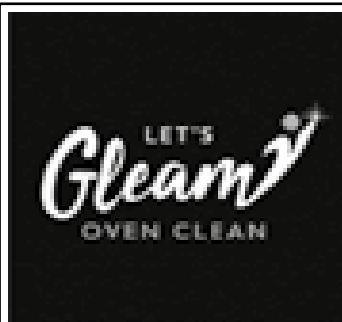
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the machine will be covered over and an Order raised with the manufacturers for their inspection and repair. Where there is no other alternative working machine at that location, a free parking sign will be displayed on the machine, permitting free parking for a maximum stay period of 3 hours, in accordance with the time plate.

All Civil Enforcement Officers, when enforcing at Pay & Display locations, are instructed to check that the machine(s) are operable before issuing a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN). If there are no working machines within that location then they are not to issue a PCN for the non-purchase of a pay & display ticket. Penalties can and will be issued where a vehicle is observed to have parked beyond the 3 hour maximum stay period."

ULEZ

The threat of ULEZ coming to Havering is very real and despite the Council's refusal to cooperate with the Mayor, he is still intent on applying this unfair tax to our area even though air quality has been improving over the last 10 years. Please write to the Mayor or voice your concerns on social media so

we can send a clear message that Havering does not want or need ULEZ.

Cllr LAURANCE GARRARD

Stop and Search

Stop and Search issues are often in the press, usually with the Police being challenged over its use. Each London Borough has a Stop and Search Community Monitoring Group (CMG) which is made up of representatives from the community, who meet quarterly with police. These meetings are an opportunity to hold the Police to account by examining data regarding the use of stop and search, including reviewing the officers grounds for the stop, which is required by law. In addition, a sample of officers Body Worn Video recordings are viewed on a monthly basis by the group's representatives. CMG members are able to challenge the police on all aspects of stop and search. Havering has had a successful CMG for many years; however our membership has reduced recently. We are therefore seeking new members to join the CMG. Anyone living or working

continued on page 5

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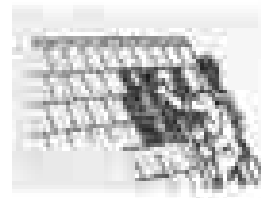
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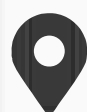


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LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Thames Chase

Back in January we launched Heritage Walks. A monthly walk designed for anyone who is interested in wildlife and environment and the human heritage of the local area. A great way to learn more about local heritage with interesting stories and some surprising facts. Our 3rd March walk will focus on Warley including a guided walk around the church and Warley Place which will also include a speaker. Parking, refreshments and toilets will be available. The full itinerary and details on how to book will be announced on our website and across social media very soon.

Welcome springtime on Sunday, 26th March, 3pm-5pm with Springtime Music at the forest centre with tea, coffee and cake. Enjoy listening to some

of your favourite popular songs and well known instrumental music, including golden oldies and modern classics. Guitarist John Luff and Vocalist Jill Luff Instrumentalists: Cathy Merrivale (Oboe) and Ian Pirie (Keyboard). Programme to include music by Leonard Cohen, Cole Porter, Burt Bacharach, Ennio Morricone's famous theme Gabriel's Oboe from The Mission and more. Tickets are £8. Please call to book a space: **01708 642970**.

Upminster Telephone Exchange Memories

We have been contacted by a volunteer at the Havering Museum who is currently running a project called 'working lives' in Havering' and is researching the Upminster Telephone Exchange. If anyone would like to share their stories of working there or if anyone has any memorabilia they would like to loan to the museum please email collections@haveringmuseum.org.uk or call

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on **01708 766571** or pop in and see the team at the museum.

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**.

British Summer time

British Summer time begins Sunday, 26th March at 1am. Clocks go forward.

Upminster Allen Ford / Hyundai

The former Allen Ford showroom at Upminster is changing. While still owned by the same company and staffed by the same friendly faces, it's switching to sell exciting Hyundai models, including the popular TUCSON SUV and ultra-fast charging UK Car Of

The Year, the IONIQ 5 EV. Allen Ford will continue to offer the latest Ford vehicles from their locations in Romford, Brentwood and Basildon. The Upminster dealership is now selling Hyundai models and from spring 2023 will offer both Hyundai and Ford-approved Parts & Servicing. They will be able to help anyone whose Hyundai or Ford needs work done under warranty and anyone whose vehicle is not under warranty. For more information, just call **01708 917958**.

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continued on page 7

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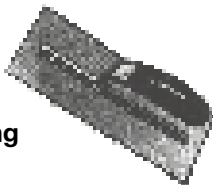
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Scheffler – is returning to the Thames Chase Forest Centre. Launching on 30 January 2023, the new Forestry England family activity trail and a free interactive app will encourage your little dragons to learn about how they can care for the forest and how the forests can care for them. Grab a Zog trail activity pack for only £4 from the Visitor Centre (Monday-Sunday during open hours) before starting the trail for lots of fun things to do on your forest adventure. Further details of trails and free downloadable activity sheets are available from www.forestryengland.uk/zog

Have you heard about the 'Copper Switch Off'?

If the answer is 'No', then you are not alone. It will come as a surprise to many that BT is planning to decommission all of its copper cables that are currently used for landline telephones, by December 2025. Instead, in what BT are calling the Copper Switch Off, they will be replaced by digital ones. In

practical terms, this will mean little difference to most people. Anyone with a broadband connection will be issued a new router, if required. They will then plug their existing phone into the router instead of the BT socket that enters their home.

However, for people who currently have a landline but not broadband, special arrangements will have to be made. Current proposals are for those affected to be offered a simple broadband connection just for making calls, at no extra cost.

There are two issues that are yet to be fully resolved. Firstly, some telecare facilities (such as panic alarms etc.) may need to be replaced. Healthcare providers, including Havering Council, are aware of this and will be working to make sure this is resolved before the switch-off takes place.

However, the issue of what happens if there is a power cut is yet to be sufficiently addressed. During trials last year, many people in areas with poor mobile signals found themselves without communication following nationwide storms, unlike those with landlines, who could still make and receive calls.

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Photo ID For Voting

Many readers would have seen the advertisements pointing out that in future

"Photo ID" will be required when voting. This is being introduced in an effort to stop any voting fraud. Whilst I understand that the amount of fraud has been minimal, there is concern hence the introduction of the requirement of Photo ID. For Local Elections this will commence on the 4th May this year where there are many elections outside London. Elections to Havering Council were held in May last year.

From October this year will also apply for General Elections.

On the Electoral Commission website it gives a wide range of Photo ID that can be used ie Passport, Driving Licence, Proof of Age ID card etc. Original versions only may be used, not a photocopy. Anyone not having any of the "Photo IDs" required can apply for a "Voter Authority Certificate". Details on how to obtain this are on the Electoral Commission website.

How to get your tortoise through the changeable Spring weather

Most tortoises will have spent the winter months tucked away in a frost-free cold place for their hibernation. In order that they may build up reserves for this year's hibernation it is recommended to wake them no later than March. However, it is rarely warm enough for them to be allowed out in our gardens at this time of year. If tortoises are not kept above 18C their digestive processes stop. It is recommended, therefore that artificial heat is given during this time. The best method is by an overhead heater especially a ceramic heater that can be left on day and night as it doesn't give out any light. A temperature of 25C is recommended for optimum function. Do not allow your tortoise to go back into hibernation once it has woken as it may not have the reserves

continued on page 9

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to wake a second time. If you need advice regarding your tortoise post-hibernation, please telephone Lawton and Stoakes on **01708 384444** for an appointment with one of our Vets.

Council Finance

We have been reporting on the dire "financial situation" of Havering Council. Upminster Residents' Councillor Chris Wilkins pointed out on the front page of last month's Bulletin that Havering has one of the largest elderly population in London, which is growing, and one of the biggest growing young persons' population too. This has come at a time as the Residents' Association Leader of The Council Ray Morgon also pointed out the Council is facing a funding gap of £70million over the next four years. Demand for services helping vulnerable adults and children - which we must provide by law - is going up. Your Councillors have been looking in detail as to how we can overcome the problem of simply not getting enough assistance from the Government. Is it now the time for the Government to address how Local Government

should be financed? Many older readers will remember the Rates system which was reviewed and the Poll Tax was introduced where everyone over the age of 18 was due to pay an amount. This simply led to names on Council Electoral Rolls ie the voting lists rapidly dropping. Whilst it appeared to be laudable that everyone should pay, was it fair that students who spent considerable time away from home should pay? The Poll Tax was dropped and the present system of Council Tax was introduced over thirty years ago based on property valuations. A Band D home was worth £68,000 to £88,000 in 1991. As evidenced below this system is dreadfully unfair and outdated. There is a huge difference in what we pay compared to Westminster Council and neighbouring Redbridge in the current year 2022/23.

Band	Havering	Westminster	Redbridge
D	£1,970.97	£864.13	£1,863.94
E	£2,408.96	£1,056.16	£2,278.15
F	£2,846.96	£1,248.19	£2,692.36
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The Government needs to address this now.

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Big Band event

The Rotary Club of Hornchurch and Upminster will be holding their annual charity Big Band event at The New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster. The event will feature the Ken Turner Big Band who will entertain us with music from the fabulous swing era. The date is 29th April 2023 with music from 8pm. Admission is by prepaid ticket only on sale at £25 each which includes a fish and chips, chicken and chips or vegetarian option supper. All proceeds from the evening will be donated to local charities. For tickets please contact Terry Monk on **01708 226305**.

Film Review: Bank of Dave

Bank of Dave is a heart-warming Netflix original film that leaves you feeling positive that there is still thoughtfulness in the world. It follows a young London lawyer who travels to Burnley to represent a local van salesman with a huge dream - to open a bank.

This film is the heavily fictionalised

true story of Dave Fishwick, (Rory Kinnear) who gives loans to his local community and decides it would be a lot easier if he was able to have his own bank. However, he is a humble, hometown underdog who has to battle against the Eton-educated bank owners.

I feel the film has a really strong moral message to take care of other people, which sometimes means compromising your own needs. However, there are also romantic and humorous elements that add another dimension to the film - watch out for a surprise cameo!

Dave's story was first publicised in a 2012 Channel 4 documentary (of the same name) that is now on my must-watch list! Although I feel this film was fun, light-hearted and has a classic good vs evil narrative, it was quite disappointing to find out that the majority of the story was for dramatic purposes only. Hopefully the documentary will shed light on the truth. Overall, this film is great for a relaxing weekend watch. I highly recommend this film.

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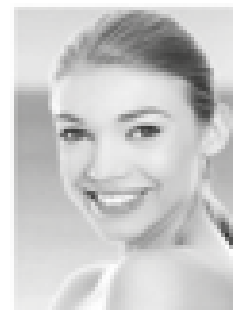
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Walk it Out

Created in 2021, Walk it Out was formed by April Mehmet to improve the health and wellbeing of females, to raise awareness to improve women's safety and empower young girls and women to stand up for themselves at home and in public. Working closely with the Police, they look at ways to reach out and connect with women through free activities from park walks to monthly coffee meet ups, workshops to improve confidence in women and online mentoring. Originating in Redbridge women from across neighbouring boroughs of Newham, Barking and Dagenham and Havering are getting involved. Their mission is to strengthen the voices of females. If you would like to find out more please visit the website https://linktr.ee/Walk_it_out

Watch that Speed

May we remind you to watch your speed when driving. The local Police do hold speed checks. Please be careful and keep our roads safe.

Lord Upminster

Further in the Bulletin there is an article on Upminster Library and reference to the mural of the late Ian Dury, singer, songwriter and actor who passed away in March 2000. Ian lived for a while locally in Front Lane, Cranham and Waldegrave Gardens, Upminster. 'Lord Upminster' was the title of his second album released in 1981. Ian attended Upminster Infants School - The Bell for a while. There is a huge amount of information on Ian on the internet.

The Judy D'cruz Fund

It is with great sadness that I have to tell you that my loving wife and mother to Daniel, Andrew and Mark passed away on the 20th January. Judy was always grateful for the love and support the people of Upminster & Cranham showed towards her in her ten year battle with a brain tumour. As I write, Judy has raised over £71,000 via The Judy D'cruz Fund. We will continue the work she started, so when her name comes up in these parts people may say

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continued on page 13

something like "Judy D'cruz ... wasn't that the lady who raised money to fight Brain Tumours?" That would be a wonderful legacy. You can read about Judy's work at www.judydcruz.com

Thank you from Win and the D'cruz family.



Cost of living support

Please check Havering Council's website haverling.gov.uk/costofliving. You will find advice on budgeting, financial support and debt advice and help with energy costs.

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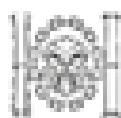
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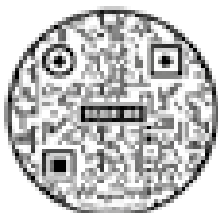
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collectable or designer goods. If you think you can play a role in volunteering your time to help us with this please pop into the shop any day Monday to Sunday and speak to Jane or Sharon to see how YOU can help. Thank you for your support. All donations provide hope to those in need during the cost of living crisis. St Vincent's turning concern into action.

Grow your own

During this cost of living crisis, it can be beneficial to grow your own vegetables. One example is tomatoes, they do not need a lot of space and you get a good crop. Sow them in late February early March on a window sill in direct sunlight. Plant them outside when they are big enough and the threat of frost has passed. It's so rewarding when you taste the efforts of your labour.

CLlr DAVID GODWIN

Potholes

Councillor Oscar Ford wrote in the Bulletin last month.

The snow in December had a magical effect on the landscape and would have been enjoyed by

many. However, it soon turned to an icy nuisance creating some treacherous conditions. The combination of freeze, gritting and thaw has resulted in an increase and enlargement of some potholes. Councillors have been reporting these and residents can report pavement and road defects through the Council's online system: https://www.havering.gov.uk/info/20026/roads/98/damaged_roads_and_pavements

It is worth noting that for a pothole to be considered, it must be at least 40mm deep and 300mm wide. A pothole or a raised paving slab on the footway must be 25mm deep.

Interesting to read in the National Media that Councils have paid out more than £32 million in compensation to people injured by potholes in the past five years.

Friends of Branfil, Comedy Night

Join us for a night of laughter on Friday, 3rd March at 8pm. Doors open at 7pm. First drink included. Tickets £15. <https://branfil.hoot.cloud/book/book.php?e=1011>

The confirmed line up President Obonjo (MC), Jack Hester, Alexis Roy, Luke Stephen & Paul Pirie (Headliner). See promotional ad on page 18 for more details.

Hornchurch Football Club

Your local club who play at The Stadium, Bridge Avenue look forward to seeing you watch them play. Please note the following home fixtures, kick off 3pm Saturdays:

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Tuesday, 7th March - Kingstonian (7.45pm kick off)

Saturday, 11th March - Brightlingsea Regent

Saturday, 25th March - Margate

A great afternoon out and they have a fantastic bar area. Go along and support The Urchins.

Upminster Library

As a number of Councils are closing libraries, it's great to see that Upminster Library at 26 Corbets Tey Road is open six

continued on page 15

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days a week. There is parking space in the front for people with disabilities and a toilet also for people with disabilities. There is a magnificent mural at the Library featuring local scenes and Lord Upminster, the singer, songwriter and actor the late Ian Dury. Apart from having a really wide range of books, there are computer facilities and work stations. Nice to see a wide range of people using the facilities. This is your Library go along and see what is on offer.

Independent review of delivering net zero

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy has published the findings of a Government commissioned independent Net Zero Review. The report makes a large number of recommendations and identifies ten priority missions to achieve net zero carbon emissions nationally by 2050, covering the following areas:

- Grid and Infrastructure
- Solar
- Onshore Wind
- Nuclear
- Energy Intensives and Industry
- Circular Economy and Waste
- Net Zero Big Bang
- Energy Efficiency For Households
- Net Zero Nature
- R&D and Innovation

Havering's current Climate Action Plan sets a target to achieve net

zero carbon emissions by 2040.

For a link to the full report visit www.ucra.co.uk/independent-review-of-governments-approach-to-delivering-net-zero/.

UCRA Coach outing news

Thriplow Daffodil Festival, Saturday, 25th March - One of the best loved charity events in Cambridgeshire held over two days. Visitors can walk the car-free village to look at the famous daffodil displays, visit the attractions, open gardens and potter the stalls and crafts. Refreshments are served in the tea rooms with homemade cakes and sandwiches or delicious hot street food can be eaten while listening to live music. Step back in time and experience the warm and friendly atmosphere of village life as it used to be. Price £25 includes entrance ticket and return coach.

Day trip to Ely, Cambridgeshire, Saturday, 29th April. On this special day Ely pays homage to the eels living in the waterways around the city and celebrates its origins.

The festivities consist of activities like eel throwing and eel tasting, but also commemorates traditions like historical displays, craft and food stalls and of course folk music and dancing. Ely is situated on the river, which means waterside strolls and drinks are big on the menu here and it's also home to one of the most impressive Cathedrals

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Shirley Tours

Thank you for your support. I recently donated 5 cheques of £400 each to Hall Mead School, Engayne School, James Oglethorpe School, All Saints Church and All Saints Scouts, raised by my coach trips.

13th to 17th April.

Eastbourne trip, Staying at the Imperial Hotel in the heart of Eastbourne. Coach travel with local picks ups. Two full day trips, one free day, lots to do including seaside, gardens and shops. 3 twin rooms left, no singles!

11th - 12th May,

West End Musical - Six.

Hotel stay with breakfast. Good seats in stalls. 8.30pm show. £99, plus £5 donation to Shirley Tours. Twin rooms, no coach.

29th July -

7 nights music themed cruise "Land of the Vikings"

Motown meets rock n roll legends with Kiki Dee plus Elvis impersonator. Ambassador Cruises sailing on cruise ship Ambience from Tilbury port. Ports of call include Gothenburg, Copenhagen, Kristiansand with possible chance to visit "Graceland" new Elvis themed museum in Aarhus Denmark. Booking now, request flyer

for details. Full vaccinations required.

12th to 13th December.

Thursford Spectacular Show, Norfolk. £279pp. By coach with overnight stop at hotel in Norwich, with light lunch at Pensthorpe Wildlife Bird Sanctuary en route, Tickets for Thursford Matinee Show and Dinner at overnight hotel. Free time in Norwich next day before returning home. Now booking. Email: shirley@shirleytours.co.uk or call 01708 227884 or 07966 146956 (mobile has answerphone so please leave name and your contact details).

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

3rd Hornchurch Girls' Brigade Company We finally did it!



We celebrated our 52nd birthday on 9th December 2022. Due to Covid,

we could not celebrate our 50th anniversary. Rev. Ken Wylie took the Church service. The girls led the service with Bible readings, prayers and singing. We had refreshments in the hall, including an anniversary cake, with time to socialize and reminisce. District officers, ex-leaders, girls from the past

continued on page 17



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and present and their families attended. Over seventy people came.

We meet on Friday evenings, between 6pm-7.15pm during term time at St Andrew's Church, High Street, Hornchurch. We are going to camp in July 2023 and we hope to take part in District events in the future and continue to grow as a group, to love and care for each other.

Captain KAREN SPELLER

OUT AND ABOUT – CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The Cappella Singers of Upminster

Do come to our 'open rehearsal' concert on Thursday, 30th March, at 7.30pm at Trinity United Reformed Church, 29 Station Road, Upminster RM14 2SJ.

Our new conductor, David Chan, has put together a fascinating programme with a Spring flavour. There will be folk song settings, and some pieces for women only and some for men only. Some of the music has been arranged by David himself, and some has not been performed in this country before! Entry free, but donations welcome.

Tea, Cakes and Chat - Social Group

We meet at Havering Indoor Bowls Club, Harrow Lodge Park RM11 1JU on the last Friday of the month. If you are 55 and over and would like to meet new friends and be able to socialise in a warm and friendly environment

come and join us.


From 1:30pm to 4pm, £5 entry. We hold different arts and crafts, informative chats and activities as well as having a hot drink and a cake. For further details email **[Lauren at teacakesandchat@icloud.com](mailto:Lauren@teacakesandchat@icloud.com)**

Anyone for Scrabble?

Friendly group of Scrabble fans need more members. We meet at Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens, Cranham every Friday at 1.30pm. Please just turn up. Any assistance and tea provided for just £2. Looking forward to seeing you. Barbara Parker **07498573546**


Seated, Supported and Standing Dance Class for Older Adults

Sue Wilson is reaching out to the older adults of our community and those with long term health conditions and disabilities with a very special inclusive and accessible dance class that incorporates Falls Prevention techniques. Participants can sit, or stand for the whole class, making this a truly fully inclusive class. After singing and dancing everyone is welcome to stay for a cuppa and chat - a great way to make new friends. If you, or anyone you know would benefit from increased activity levels for better health and mobility and general wellbeing in a fun and enjoyable way, come along to Cranham Community Centre on Mondays 12 - 12.40pm where your first class will be free, normally £6 each week. Sue can be contacted on **07940 781881** or email her on: **sue.danceaway@yahoo.com**



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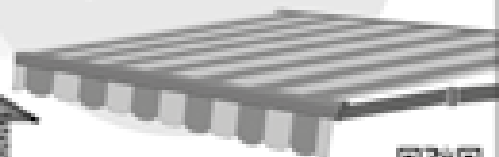
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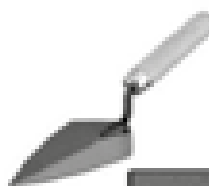
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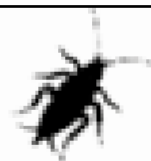
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The Arts Society, Havering

Our March talk will be The Art
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from the natural world by Anne
Haworth, a lecturer at the Victoria
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The course runs from 20th
February to 27th March 2023, on
Monday evenings at 7pm for 90
mins. You can join mid-course,
please book through Thames
Chase Reception 01708 642970.
£7 per person. A second course
will commence in June.

Essex Wildlife Trust, Havering - indoor meetings

AGM, Monday, 13th March
followed by Rich Yates, Director
of Engagement Essex Wildlife
Trust talking about "The Trust".
Meetings held at Fairkites Arts
Centre, Billet Lane, Hornchurch
RM11 1AX. Donation £3. 2.15pm
- 4pm. Contact / Booking Joy
Emerson, Secretary 07759
869910 or Email joyem.109@gmail.com. Advance booking is
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Harwood Ladies Probus

We are a group of retired women
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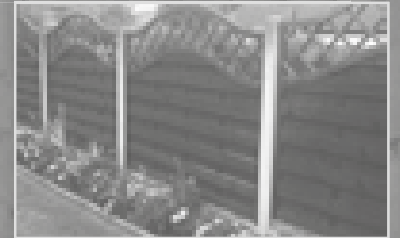
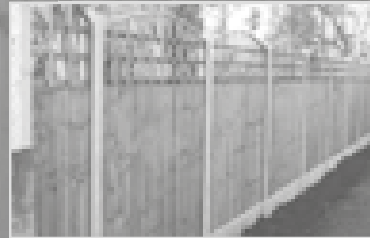
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Craft sale – Trinity Church

Coffee morning and craft sale on Saturday, 11th March from 10 to 12noon at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster. All proceeds to Harold Hill Foodbank.

The Havering Concert Orchestra Spring Chamber Concert

Come and join us for an intimate Chamber Concert in the gentle surroundings of Upminster's New Windmill Hall. Sunday, 26th March at The New Windmill Hall, St Mary's Lane, Upminster RM14 2QH. Doors open 2.30pm, concert starts 3pm. Advance tickets are £12 and are available online via www.hcweb.co.uk where more details can also be found. Tickets will also be available on the door but at the higher price of £15.

Saturday Talks Club

*Saturday, 11th March – Exploring
Folklore.* Speaker is Mark Lewis.
Venue is Roope Hall, Trinity

United Reformed Church, Station Road, Upminster from 2- 4pm. Doors open 1.45pm. £5 including tea and biscuits. Enquiries to Mrs B Bland **07951217930 / 01689 858701 / porcuspiker@hotmail.com** Mrs G Blake **07788751407 / 01708 227512 / arwb@aol.com**

Weeds and the Weed-Free Garden

Come and join the Upminster & District Horticultural Society on March 14th to hear Geoff Hodge's hints, tips, advice on how to reduce and prevent weeds invading our gardens. Geoff is a writer and broadcaster for the past 20 years and is very entertaining speaker, so don't miss this one.

The lecture is in the Windmill Hall, doors open at 7.15pm, evening starts at 7.45 pm. There are refreshments during the interval and a raffle at the end of the evening closing at 9.45pm. Entrance is free to members and £3 for non-members.

You can find out more about our society by visiting our website www.upminsterhorticulturalsociety.co.uk

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Land South of St Mary's Lane

As the February Bulletin started going out the Council publicised on their weekly lists Reference P1963.22 on the old Ruskins site in St Mary's Lane next to Coopers Coborn School. This location has seen a number of Planning Applications over the years. It is in the northern section of The Cranham Conservation area. This time the application is "Erection of acquired brain unit injury unit and open spaces with associated access, landscaping, parking and infrastructure". Further details can be seen on the Havering Council website Planning Search by putting in the Reference P1963.22. There is a lot of information on this. If you wish to comment you can email www.planning@haverling.gov.uk or write to Neighbourhoods Planning Control, London Borough of Havering, Town Hall, Main Road, Romford RM1 3BB.

Upminster South District Guiding

We are in desperate need of volunteers to run our Rainbows ages 4-7, Brownies ages 7-10, Guides ages 10-14 and Rangers ages 14-18. Without new leaders these units will close and this will affect waiting lists in other areas. You will be supported in your role as you gain your leadership qualification by our other leaders. Please contact Josie on **07835 418914** or josieandsharon6thub@gmail.com for further details. If you cannot commit to every week please contact us and we can discuss the options with you.

Cranham Community Centre, Marlborough Gardens

We are pleased to say we are now holding 'pop up' shops. We will be showcasing any local business that wish to sell their produce. This

continued on page 22

Your Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association Councillors are on facebook

For Upminster search: 'UCRA Oscar Ford'
For Cranham search: 'UCRA Phil Ruck' or 'Councillor Gillian Ford'



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Roadworks in Fen Lane until end of March

The current cabling works in Fen Lane, Upminster, means that the road will be closed until 31 March between its junctions with Ockendon Road and half a mile west of Dunning Lane.

Dury Falls alley update

Following a hand-delivered letter in September from Cranham ward councillors to residents in Waldergrave Gardens, whose gardens back onto the footway running between near Upminster Station and Berkeley Close on the Dury Falls Estate, we were pleased that residents whose overgrowing foliage was reducing the width of the alley, responded by trimming it back - thank you.

In late January, the alleyway itself was also tidied up and

growth on the railway side cut back. Cranham Councillors will continue to monitor the footway as the growing season begins. Havering Council have been asked on several occasions to schedule regular tidy-ups of the alley. Hopefully this is now taking place.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Meet the Cranham Police team

Please note the following date to meet with the local Police Safer Neighbourhood Team in Cranham. Saturday, 4th March, Berkeley Close, Dury Falls 1200 to 1300 hrs. Please note this meeting could be impacted if a police emergency arises. Go along and say hello.

The Saturday Night Lounge

Following the successful launch of the Saturday Night Lounge, we can announce further dates as follows: Saturday, 4th March and Saturday, 1st April. Come and join us for fun, friendship, pool, quiz nights, music and events. All are welcome, alone or with friends, no plus 1 needed. Serving soft drinks, hot drinks, snacks, soup and roll. No payment required for any part of this event. First Saturday of every month from 7.30pm to

10pm. At Moor Lane Church, Cranham RM14 1HN. Alcohol free venue **saturdaynightlounge@gmail.com**

5th Upminster Guides-welcomes new members

We are a very friendly group who meet at St Peter's 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.

Upminster Councillor surgery

Please note that the Upminster Councillors' ward surgery will be held on Monday, 13th March at Café Gelato, 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.

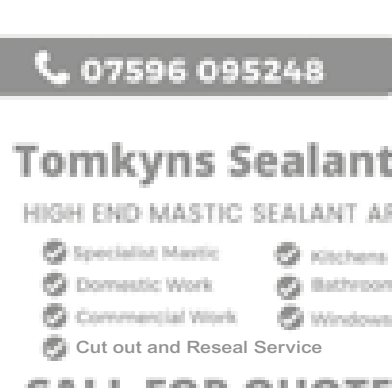
Cllrs OSCAR FORD,
LINDA HAWTHORN AND
CHRIS WILKINS

Meet the Upminster Police team

Please note the following dates to meet with the local Police Safer Neighbourhood Team in Upminster. 8th March, Rooms Restaurant, Station Road, Upminster 1200 to 1300 hrs and 24th March, Upminster Greggs, next to the station 1530 to 1630 hrs. Please note these meetings could be impacted if a police emergency arises. Go along and say hello.

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.



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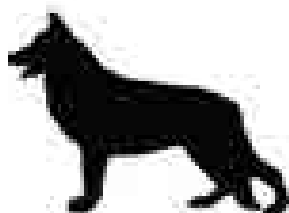
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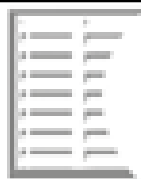


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