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UPMINSTER & CRANHAM RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Councillor Linda Hawthorn



We reported last month the sad passing of our Upminster Residents' Councillor Linda Hawthorn. Our fathers lived in the same road in Bow and I believe went to the same school, but I first met Linda when I was living in Cranham in the 1970s. Linda was active for the Residents' Association in Upminster and first stood for us in 1990 when she was still working for the Department of Work and Pensions. I was her election agent in 1990 and for the following 8 elections. Thus she served on Havering Council as one of its longest serving Councillors at over 33 years and threw herself wholeheartedly into Council work serving on a wide range of committees.

With the exception of two elections she topped the poll in Havering and when I returned to the Council in 2010 to join her, she achieved one of the highest votes ever in a local

election - I am sure she will be smiling that whilst she received 4,839 votes, I pipped her with a further 32 more at 4,871 votes.

She was passionate about our local heritage and was very active in a wide range of local organisations including Friends of Upminster Park, Clockhouse Gardens, Parklands at the end of Corbets Tey Rd and The Old Chapel in St Mary's Lane. As a Trustee of the Upminster Windmill she was delighted when the windmill received a grant and assistance from the Council to refurbish the windmill into a fully working mill. She was looking forward to the official opening this year. She was also a member of the committee that formed the Havering Museum in Romford.

She really enjoyed her work in the local area and would have received thousands of calls and followed up complaints on behalf of residents. Without any doubt every home in our area and the whole of Havering has benefited from her time on Havering Council.

For many years Linda was an active member of the Council's planning committees, particularly keen on defending our local Green Belt. She also took an active interest in our town centre and following a public meeting we held at a time when there was a wide range of empty shops in the town she took an active part in encouraging the take up of shops and units. Our town centre is in a far better position now due to the efforts of Linda along with her colleagues Chris and Oscar pushing for assistance from the Council. She was also active in resurrecting the successful annual Christmas Lights event in Upminster. We have received many kind messages from residents as the sad news of Linda's passing has spread. We have lost a good friend and a huge servant to our community. Thank you Linda - it was great working with you.

RON OWER

ULEZ

The Residents Associations have made it clear to TfL and the Mayor of London the impact ULEZ will have on residents, businesses and the voluntary sector. The five Conservative authorities going to Judicial Review did not want to speak to Havering's Cabinet Member; they receive better Government grants than Havering. We do not support the process and the H.R.A have not signed the Section 8 Agreement to cooperate, despite being asked to do so on multiple occasions.


The Judicial Review is heard in July. If the five authorities win, the precedent has been set, meaning other outer London Authorities succeed. If, however, the ruling is against the five, they pay the Mayor's costs; Havering will not. We have made it clear from the outset Havering is financially penalised by Government and has high social care pressures. The Residents Associations are united in protecting public funds and not placing residents at risk of incurring additional costs. The Government have made it clear to the Residents Associations that they will not intervene, but we will continue to use every platform available to highlight the negative impact ULEZ will have on the borough.

YOUR LOCAL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
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We are very proud of The Bulletin and know that it is very well received when it drops through the letterbox each month. Keeping you up to date with what's going on in the local area and of course supporting local firms and traders with our advertising space. Would you like to get more involved to support its production? Do you have some free time, are you competent with MS Word/Excel, are you an experienced administrator or even have

continued on page 2



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some editorial experience? Would you be interested in making a commitment to join the team and support the Bulletin on a voluntary basis? If you are interested please email us on Bulletinra@yahoo.co.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 gio.anastasi@hotmail.com or bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk.

Upminster Ward By-election

Following the sad and untimely death of Councillor Linda Hawthorn, there will be a by-election held in the Upminster ward. The timing is not yet decided. Do you support the principles that local councils should be run without national party politics getting in the way? Do you follow the Residents' Association and want to get more involved? Have you ever considered representing

the residents in your area as a Councillor? If so, you might consider seeking to stand as the UCRA candidate in the by-election.

Nominations of any Member of the Association (ie anyone in a household that had paid the annual subscription of £2 within the past year) as a proposed candidate for the Upminster and Cranham Residents' Association in the by-election must be sent in writing to Mike Long, the Hon. Secretary and, using the official nomination form by 26 July. Anyone interested in standing should contact Mike Long (mike.long1@btinternet.com), (copied to the Chairman, Chris Wilkins (wilkinschristopher7@gmail.com)), who will supply the necessary nomination form.

The Data Centre

Editorial correction - In the June issue it was stated that Thames Chase was engaged with the Data Centre developer's ecology park proposals. This was misinformation as no such discussions have taken place. We apologise to Thames Chase Trust and partners for this incorrect reference, and for any inconvenience caused.

ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

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New Dropped Kerb Policy for Driveways

Havering's Cabinet have given the green light for a new policy, aimed at making the application process for dropped kerbs for driveway access, more consistent, efficient and clearer. This new policy comes in after a review of the old one, which was first introduced in 2008, and had become outdated. It often left residents confused about the application criteria. It will now be easier for residents to interpret, and it is hoped that this will reduce the number of disputes and appeals when applications are rejected. The policy will also include the latest standards and practices to prioritise public safety, plus ensure that any dropped kerbs have a minimal impact on the streets, environment and trees. More information can be found via the following link:
https://www.havering.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/5746/dropped_kerb_and_vehicle_crossover_policy.pdf

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

Further Update on Penalty Charge Notices when payment machines not working

Following my previous articles regarding the issuing of penalty charge notices (PCNs) in a council car park when all of the machines were inoperable, even though Havering Council had previously agreed that parking would be free in such circumstances (including on-street bays where all nearby machines were not working), in the June edition of the Bulletin. I reported that I had been contacted by a resident who had had their appeal refused on the basis that they should have used the RingGo app or moved their vehicle to an alternative area.

I am pleased to say that following my highlighting once again to the council that this should not have happened, the resident's PCN was quashed without them having to go to a further independent review. I have been promised that

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relevant staff (both internal and outside contractor) will be briefed on the rules regarding issuing of tickets and appeals.

Hopefully, this will be the last time I have to write about such issues.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Parking Penalty Charge Notice Appeals Process

Havering Council's Parking Manager has provided Councillors with information on the appeals process, if you believe that you have wrongly been issued with a parking ticket or traffic fine, or have mitigating circumstances etc. A summary of this is below:

Firstly, people should refer to the council's Discretionary Policy Document, which advises how and when a Penalty can be considered for cancellation (see below).

All challenges should be made by the recipient of the penalty and need to be in writing (either by online portal or post).

The process of Civil Parking Enforcement is defined by the Traffic Management Act 2004, the Civil Enforcement of Parking

Contraventions (England) General Regulations 2007 and the Civil Enforcement of Parking Contraventions (England) Representations and Appeals Regulations 2007.

Should the Council refuse a challenge, then the person making the appeal is able to move their case to the independent Adjudicator at the London Tribunals Service, where an independent Adjudicator will decide upon the case - a decision which is binding on both parties.

For further information on appealing a parking ticket or traffic fine, including a link to the Council's Discretionary Policy Document, visit www.havering.gov.uk/info/20004/parking/121/parking_tickets_and_traffic_fines/2

Cllr JOHN TYLER

New Mayor's Charity

Delighted to inform you that the new Residents' Association Mayor, Councillor Stephanie Nunn, has chosen First Step as her fund raising charity this year. First Step

continued on page 5

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Tree Feathering update

Every year across Havering more than 2,500 trees start showing feathering. Feathering are the shoots that come from buds that are dormant along the trunk and branches of a tree. They can cause problems by blocking sight lines or grow over pavements and roads. The trees in question mainly include maple and lime trees. To deal with the problem

and to ensure the borough's trees are kept healthy and in a good condition, the Council's tree team and contractors will be carrying out feathering works over the next eight weeks. Growths will be removed on a street-by-street basis, focusing on the busier areas first. Once the first round of pruning has been completed, follow-up inspections will be arranged, and any trees which have re-sprouted, will have additional pruning work arranged before the trees enter the winter months.

Cllr CHRIS WILKINS

Congratulations Stephanie and Barry

Delighted to inform you that Residents' Councillor Stephanie Nunn has been elected Mayor for the year 2023/24. Her consort is her husband Councillor Barry Mugglestone, Cabinet Member for the Environment. Stephanie and Barry were both elected to the Council for Elm Park in 2014. In 2022 they were re-elected with huge majorities. We hope you enjoy your year.

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One Year On

It has passed quickly but it has already been a year since I was kindly elected as a Councillor in the Cranham ward. During that year the HRA administration has had much to grapple with after inheriting some major budget issues, the size of which is unprecedented. This has meant that we have not been able to transform services as quickly as we wanted, not that we won't, we have had to take a different approach. However I am pleased to say that the HRA is not shying away from challenging the status

quo and taking the hard decision, with the residents' needs at the centre of every solution. We know that the speed and plans by which Mayor Khan wants to start ULEZ are not acceptable, but only Parliament can effectively rein him in. (I acknowledge the ongoing Court case but this might only delay implementation, not force a major rethink, in my view). Your Cranham ward councillors have actively informed residents of the proposed changes to the bus services in Cranham by TFL and will continue to keep you informed. We are also keeping a very close eye on the development of the previous Pitch & Putt site in Hall Lane, which is causing much consternation with ongoing works. My inbox is full of reports of pot holes and deterioration in road surfaces and we are doing everything possible to address these problems. As I write we are urging the Council to pay more attention to cutting grass and trimming trees/vegetation which is currently growing at a rapid rate.

If you have an issue you wish to discuss with us, please contact us, our contact details are on page 2.

Cllr PHILIP RUCK

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Upminster CC v Essex CCC

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Photo ID at elections

As many people will have heard, photo ID is now required to be shown at Polling Stations when voting in local elections, parliamentary by-elections, some other elections and from October this year, General Elections.

There are over 20 different types of photo ID listed as being acceptable, including UK and some other types of passport, driving licences, Blue Badge and Freedom Passes. For a full list, visit electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id

If you don't think you have an accepted form of voter ID, then you can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate (but you

must already be registered to vote before doing this).

You can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate online via gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate or complete a paper application to apply by post. For information on acceptable forms of ID or to request an application form, e-mail elections@havering.gov.uk or ring Havering Election Services on 01708 432 444.

Cllr JOHN TYLER

Could you foster a vulnerable Havering child or young person?

At any one time there can be around 250 young people under the care of Havering's Children's Services. One key provision to help these young people feel safe and to thrive is through fostering. Foster carers help children to feel safe, healthy and happy by offering a safe home environment

where they can understand why they're living away from their birth parents. In addition to doing a very special thing for a young person, a Havering foster carer receives a wide-ranging support package including ongoing training, access to our local 24/7 support, and peer support as well as financial support and access benefits. Applications are welcomed from all sections of the community, regardless of ethnicity, faith, age, sexuality, disability, background, marital or employment status. Further details can be found on the Havering website here: <https://www.havering.gov.uk/info/20082/fostering>

Monty Python's Spamalot

The Brookside Theatre at 21a Eastern Road, Romford has a wide variety of shows.

For all those Monty Python fans out there, the Theatre has a new musical they quote as "ripped off from the motion picture Monty Python and the Holy Grail". The show is on from Wednesday 1st to Saturday 4th September. Tickets

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from the Box Office tel 01708 755 775 or their website www.brooksidetheatre.com

The Old White Horse

The Pub in Ockendon Road closed several months ago and is up for sale with a sign pointing out "development opportunity". This of course would be subject to planning permission by Havering Council. We keep a close eye on the Council's weekly planning application lists. They can also be viewed on our website www.ucra.co.uk. We will keep you advised of any planning applications. Are we correct in stating that there has been a Pub on this site for over a hundred years?

Have you any memories if so please we drop us a line at bulletinra@yahoo.co.uk.

First Step 35th Anniversary Ball

On Saturday, 7th October 2023 First Step will be holding its 35th annual ball. Help celebrate 35 years of First Step and catch up with families, friends and

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supporters of First Step and of course the founders Gill Hare and Margaret Williams. The event will be taking place at Orsett Hall in The Pavilion where you can enjoy a 3 course meal with tea and coffee, a raffle, silent auction, music and dancing. Tickets £75. To reserve tickets give Caroline or Catherine a call on **01708 556355** or email: fundraising@firststep.org.uk

Great news from First Step following their Golf Day held on 26th May. With sunny weather, a great day of competitions and an auction and raffle in the evening, the charity was delighted to report that funds in excess of £23,000 had been raised. This money will go towards the great work of First Step to support families of babies and young children with special needs and disabilities. Huge thanks to all who supported this event.

Adventure Island

Hornchurch District Scouts (charity no. 303699) are selling Adventure Island wristbands at a discounted price of £16.50 each. Also available, Southend Sea-life

Adventure tickets adult/child £7.50 each and Adventure Golf tickets £6 for 18 holes.

Wristbands purchased this year have an expiry date of 31st December 2024 and are available to purchase all year round for any day the park is open. To purchase call Debbie on **07805612706**, Louisa on **07498575296** or collect from Pink Parachute, 6 North Street RM11 1DX during opening hours. Debit/credit cards accepted as payment with card payment only, at Pink Parachute

Dead Serious by Stewart Perkins

An Upminster resident has recently had a book published, currently available on Amazon, but soon to be available at Waterstones. Born in the East End of London in the 1950s the author lived and attended school in Dagenham. Later, working as a draughtsman he moved home with his wife and family to Havering. The sports and fun loving family man has now turned his hand to writing. A skill developed since retirement. All

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aspects of life form the basis of his novels. The recently published, 'Dead Serious - Life is just a series of short stories', contains 122 short stories grouped in 12 novelle. The book's unique structure with a series of tick boxes allows readers to either follow the tales in order, or choose single tales from different novelle. Areas where the reader can add notes provide a second interaction. The second novel, 'Dead Serious Too - Life is a mix of smiles and tears', is currently with the publishers' production team.

Beware of suspicious callers

A resident has highlighted a recent incident in Cranham where a male in a top bearing the logo of a well-known charity was seen collecting money door-to-door. The resident was suspicious and contacted the charity concerned, who confirmed that their volunteers did not undertake this practice. The incident has been reported to the police.

We would once again highlight that everyone should be wary

of unexpected callers. The Metropolitan Police gives the following information on bogus callers -

There are a number of things you can do to prevent distraction burglary. Always remember "if in doubt, keep them out" -

- use your door viewer to see who's there
- if you open the door put the chain on first
- always ask for ID and check it with the company before letting somebody into your home
- use the phone number advertised in the phone book or online, as the number on their identity card could be fake. For a utility company, call the customer service department. Close the door while you do this
- remember that genuine callers won't mind checks. If you feel at all unsure, schedule a time for the caller to come back when a friend or relative is there
- for pre-planned appointments with utility companies, a password scheme can be set up

If you feel threatened or in danger by the presence of the caller, call **999**.



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If you are interested in becoming a foster carer or would like to know more, please visit our website www.horizonfostering.co.uk, call on 020 8200 2353 or email enquiries@horizonfostering.co.uk



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New Dawn Chorus

We are a local Community Choir that was only formed this year, and entertains at friendship clubs, care homes, and day centres, offering a wide range of songs, that will get your toes a-tapping. We raise money for Saint Francis Hospice and other charities. Although our members are mature, they are young at heart and love singing and bringing a smile to the faces of our audiences, who are actively encouraged to join in. In June we did a sell-out concert at the Queen's Theatre which included songs from the 60s, some from musicals, and exciting medleys from artistes such as The Supremes, The Jersey Boys and Abba. If your club or organisation would like to book us for an hour or two of entertainment, in the knowledge that your donation will be used for Saint Francis Hospice, or another local worthy charity, please use the contact details below:

Sandra: bw53sandra@aol.com
 Paul: p.s.chapman@btinternet.com.

Havering Museum

The museum is predominantly open on Wednesday to Fridays from 11am to 4.30pm. Check out all future events etc on their excellent web site. It is located at 19/21 High Street, Romford RM11 1JU. On the ground floor of the Old Romford Brewery Building. Telephone **01708 766571**. It is well worth a visit - go along and say hello.

Upminster Windmill opens to the public

Our first public opening weekend 27th/28th May was a great success. The sun shone and enough wind for the sails to turn. Our visitors saw the mill at its best. The on-line booking system ensured that visitors were able to access the mill throughout the day without queues and the enthusiasm of our newly recruited guides created a positive experience for all.

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The financial support from National Lottery Heritage Fund and Veolia Environmental Trust plus the thousands of hours of volunteers' time had come to fruition - so rewarding to see our iconic windmill being enjoyed by the local community and by visitors from further afield.



The success was tinged with sadness - our Chairman Dennis Coombs, had died a few days before the open weekend. We all owe Dennis a great deal - his leadership had steered us through the restoration project and all the challenges that came our way, thank you Dennis, we could not have done it without you!

Our next open weekend 29th/30th

July - for details and tickets - please see our website: www.upminsterwindmill.org

Friends of Upminster Windmill (Reg. Charity)

Fund Raising Event

We have received the following thank you from Shirley Ward who organises Shirley's Tours and raises money for local charities each year.

"I would like to thank the many local companies who donated raffle prizes for my fund raising event, held at the Cranham Tandoori, Avon Road on Sunday, 21st May. The Cranham Tandoori opened especially for us on a Sunday afternoon, and we had good food, entertainment with a singer, dancing and raffle prizes. It was a fun afternoon. Total fund raised was £870. This has been donated to St Francis Hospice. Thank you all who supported this event, either by coming along or by donating cash or prizes. Big thank you to Cranham Tandoori for hosting and feeding us - it was excellent and to our singer Angie. I could not have done this without you."

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Summer is in full swing here at Thames Chase

We are looking forward to hosting 'Feel Good In The Forest' on Saturday, July 22nd. A free day for the community hosted in partnership with Forestry England. The day will consist of a series of free taster sessions that are available on site from 10am-3pm. The sessions include: Free family yoga, adult yoga, wildlife walks, cycle hire, meditation, artist sketch walks. There will also be fun children's activities and refreshments available. Tickets will be released via Eventbrite and are free to book.

Continuing the theme of the great outdoors, we are also hosting a Nocturnal Walk.

Join Thames Chase staff and a Forestry England Ranger and discover the wonderful world of bats, owls and moths, just some of the fantastic nocturnal creatures we hope to see or hear on our upcoming Nocturnal Walk. Join us on a stroll around the Thames

Chase Forest Centre starting at 8pm and finishing at 10pm, on Friday 28th July. Although bat sightings aren't guaranteed, we've not yet led a walk and not seen bats. Make sure to be prepared with long sleeves and trousers, in case of night flying insects. Sign up on Eventbrite or call the Forest Centre today, **01708 642970**, tickets are £3.50 per person, suitable for children aged 7 years and over.

TfL proposal to withdraw Day Travelcards

In May, Transport for London (TfL) announced that they were consulting with stakeholders regarding a proposal to withdraw Day Travelcards. Day Travelcards give unlimited travel on TfL services, subject to certain restrictions. Included in the proposals would be the withdrawal of Group Day Travelcards, Weekend Travelcards, the London Family Travelcard and discounted Day Travelcards bought using National Railcards.

Whilst this was not a public

consultation (it closed on 06 June), at the time of writing further information could be found via www.haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/hub-page/planning-for-the-future-policy-hub.

Matilda – Summer drama workshop with OD Theatre School

Two fun filled days for children aged 5-16yrs to sing, dance and act their way through this wonderful musical workshop, gaining insight into the musical and movie 'Matilda'. From arrival students will be caught up in the thrills and excitement of fun, hard work and creativity. Students work towards a showcase at the end of day two for family and friends to enjoy. They are challenged to learn lines, songs and movement; building confidence, performance and life skills and the importance of working in a team, no previous experience required.

Workshop dates: Monday, 31st

July & Tuesday, 1st August – 10 till 4pm.

At: Upminster Methodist Church, Hall Lane, Upminster, RM14 1AE. Places are limited.

To book online: www.occasionaldance.co.uk/kids-events/ or email: info@occasionaldance.co.uk
Telephone **07985 555966**

Charity Cricket Match and Family Fun Day

On Sunday, 9th July we will be holding a Charity Cricket Match and Family Fun Day at Upminster Cricket Club, Upminster Park, Corbets Tey Rd, Upminster RM14 2BB. As well as the cricket we have loads of activities going on around the boundary. There will be a Pizza Truck as well as a licensed bar, live music, face painting, raffle, a cake stall and lots more fun for adults and children alike. Please come and join us, entry is free but we will be looking to raise funds for The

continued on page 15

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Brain Tumour Charity – The Judy D’cruz Fund. As I write the Judy D’cruz fund stands at £85,427.18. Sadly in January this year Judy lost her battle with this brutal disease but we continue to raise funds in her name so that “terminal” becomes “treatable”. Please come along and join us for what will hopefully be a lovely family day in the sunshine.

Freecycling

It appears more and more properties are taking part in “freecycling” - the recycling of unwanted items. Many local properties are having extended work with extensions being built and residents having a general clear out of lofts, garden sheds etc. Local charity shops are happy to

take items of clothing, but there is a treasure trove of unwanted items following building work. It’s not unusual for wardrobes, kitchen equipment and other items to be left outside properties with a sign “please feel free to take”. A number of residents have saved a fortune by collecting unwanted items. I recently saw a trailer taking a substantial amount of timber left outside a house. Across the UK freecycling has gathered speed and this area is no exception. Often vans are touring the streets looking in skips etc. A note of caution, please ensure if you are leaving items outside you are happy that they can be taken.

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Upminster Tithe Barn Museum open days

The Museum of Nostalgia in Upminster Tithe Barn, Hall Lane, Upminster RM14 1AU will be open from 10.30am – 4pm on two Saturdays a month throughout the summer. For anyone who has never been there, the museum is well worth a visit.

Entry is free but a donation is welcomed, to help maintain the upkeep of the museum and its many exhibits. Plenty of free parking is also available (entrance next to Upminster Golf Club). The remaining dates for 2023 are – 1 & 15 July, 5 & 19 August, 2 & 16 September & 7 October.

For further details visit www.upminstertithebarn.co.uk/.

Art Exhibition

Janet and Terry Doyle will be exhibiting at Upminster Library from Monday 5th to Saturday 17th July. All paintings are for sale. Please come along and take a look. Enquiries to Terry on **07880 770324**.

Disability Rights UK website

Disability Rights UK, an organisation led by, run by, and working for disabled people, have launched a new website, which is

continued on page 17

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far more user friendly than their previous one. They have a benefits calculator and a Guidance and Resources section, as well as regular disability news updates. You can also sign-up to their newsletter.

They also work with Disabled People's Organisations, public bodies, businesses and Government across the UK to influence regional and national change for better rights, accessibility, benefits, quality of life and economic opportunities for Disabled people. For more information visit www.disabilityrightsuk.org/, e-mail enquires@disabilityrightsuk.org or phone them on 0330 995 0400.

Hornchurch Football Club

We are pleased to inform you our local football team based at The Stadium, Bridge Avenue have the following friendlies this month:

Saturday, 8th July away to **Barking** - kick off 3pm.
Saturday, 15th July home to **Dagenham & Redbridge** - kick off 3pm.
Saturday, 22nd July away to **St Ives Town** - kick off 3pm.
Tuesday, 25th July home to **Braintree** - kick off 3pm.
Friday, 28th July away to **Redbridge** - kick off 7.45pm.
Saturday, 5th August away to **East Thurrock** - kick off 3pm.

Further details can be found on the club's excellent website. www.hornchurchfc.com

The club are celebrating 100 years, when the Upminster Wanderers was formed. To mark the occasion, for this season only the home kit will be reverting to the original colours of blue and white. Having got used to seeing supporters in red and white, it will be interesting to see the blue and white for a season. Sponsors are local BF Mulley & Son of St Mary's Lane and High Street, Hornchurch.

Shirley Tours

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. 4 hours free time in Norwich next day before returning home.

Saturday, 17th February 2024: Brick Lane Music Hall, Adult Panto - Peter and the Loose Boys. £86pp. Price includes 3 course meal, matinee show, coach travel to the venue, a converted church setting in Silvertown.

Email: shirley@shirleytours.co.uk or call 01708 227884

or 07966 146956 (leave name and contact details on mobile answerphone). Fund raising for James Oglethorpe, Engayne, Hall Mead schools, All Saint's Church and All Saint's scout group. Pick-ups from Jobbers Rest (can park cars there), Plough Pub, Avon Road both ends.

Unmarried Couples – Pinney Talfourd



Is there such thing as a common law husband/wife?

Although there is no such thing as a common law husband/wife, various different pieces of law apply to unmarried couples including property law, children law and laws relating to domestic abuse.

What does this mean if an unmarried couple own a home?

A cohabitation agreement or declaration of trust will help you define your ownership and contributions to a property. Without such document in place the shares in the property can be difficult to assess or might

continued on page 19

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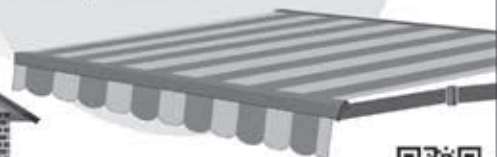
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LET'S GET QUIZZICAL

We love our quizzes and so do you! Our Monday quiz is run on behalf of a local charity or fund-raising group. Last year we helped raise over £18,000. Already, this year, we have raised over £8,000! Our Tuesday, pub quiz, is well attended and our winners get a splendid bar voucher. Can your team be the King's or Queen's of the Quiz? The fun begins at 8pm every Tuesday.

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NEW!

Upminster's newest Quiz has arrived. The first Thursday of every month, 8pm, we welcome 'MUSIC MAESTRO' A music quiz by audiophiles for audiophiles. A mix of spoken and audio questions, will you be our Music Maestro?

not reflect contributions to the purchase.

What does this mean for unmarried parents?

Unmarried fathers do not automatically acquire legal rights unless they are on the child's birth certificate. Unmarried parents can make financial claims on behalf of their children. This is called a Schedule 1 claim.

More information

If you are part of an unmarried couple and would like legal advice, please contact our specialist family lawyers who can assist further on 01708 229444.

OUT AND ABOUT – CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Essex Wildlife Trust, Havering – Monthly Walk

Saturday, 5th August – Canvey Wick RSPB, 276 Northwick Road, Canvey Island SS8 0PT – a walk around the site – it's an important side for insects so let's see what we can find.

Walks are free to attend. Meet at the car park at 10am. Each walk will take approx two hours so please wear suitable clothing and footwear. Registered dogs are welcome on a short lead. Any questions, please contact **07802212151** email **ts15457@netscape.net**

Upminster Old Chapel – then, now and in the future + AGM

Wednesday 12th July – Shopping in Upminster through the ages. Local historian Tony Benton will explore the changing face of central Upminster over the years. Email: **friendsoldchapel@mary.havering.sch.uk**

Roope Hall, Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster.

Doors open at 10am – talk starts at 10.30am, £2 supplement for members, £4 admission for non-members. Tea & coffee at end of meeting. Tel: **01708 224830** or Mob: **07870 558408**.

Havering Astronomical Society

Wednesday, 19th July, 7.15 for 7.30pm. Dr Louise Devoy, Senior Curator at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, will present a talk

entitled: **'Urania's spiders: the hidden web of women's involvement in astronomy across the centuries'**

Young Astronomers (aged 8-16) - Thursday, 27th July 7- 8pm. There is a mix of space news, talks and observing when possible.

All of the above meetings held at Thames Chase, Pike Lane, Upminster. New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining us there are more details on the website **www.havastro.co.uk** or email **enquiries@havastro.co.uk** or email **young.astronomers@havastro.co.uk**

Craft sale – Trinity Church

Coffee morning and craft sale on Saturday, 8th July from 10 to 12noon at Trinity Church, Station Road, Upminster. All proceeds to Harold Hill Foodbank.

The Arts Society, Havering

The Arts Society, Havering Study Day - *The Art of Needlework*, with Susan Kay-Williams and Exploring Tapestry: Embroidery and colour in Textiles - stories of Red, Purple, Blue and Gold.

Tuesday, 25th July at the New Windmill, Upminster. Doors open 10am for 10.30 start - finishing at 3pm.

Cost of the day - £35 including light lunch and refreshments – non-members welcome – you will be offered a ticket worth £8 providing free entry to one of our regular monthly lectures.

Lecture 1: Tapestry: the ultimate wall decoration

Lecture 2: Every colour under the sun

Lecture 3: History of Embroidery
Link to our website for this event: **https://tashavering.org.uk/Special/FutureSpecial.aspx**

If you would like more details or to book a place please contact Roger Dines on **07985 367492**.

Yoga and meditation at Hornchurch Library

Yoga and meditation classes are back at Hornchurch Library. Join us on Wednesday mornings, between 10.30 to 11.30am. All abilities are welcome, no previous experience necessary. Sessions are guided by Meeta Rajani, an experienced meditation practitioner. Please book on 07949 148211 or via email **meetarajani@outlook.com**. Harold Hill Foodbank.

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Assistive Technology includes but not limited to: **Pendants** that can be worn in the garden and bath, **Smoke & Carbon Monoxide detectors** monitored 24 hours a day (we call Emergency Services if you are unavailable i.e. in hospital), **Bed sensors** that can switch on lamps when you get out of bed.

If you would like to be more independent in your own home or help someone else, then please contact us for further details quoting UP21.



Havering Telecare Centre

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Pitch & Putt, Hall Lane and Ingrebourne Gardens closures

Abbey Homes have a certificate of permission from the sewage company to connect to the sewage network in Hall Lane. The only powers the Council has is to negotiate the length of time and the commencement date. Ward Councillors have worked with officers to mitigate against the impact. We have managed to reduce the Hall Lane closure from 8 weeks to 4 weeks. We also managed to get the drop in session on the 12th June extended to 8pm. At the time of writing we continue to kick back on the date of closure for Ingrebourne Gardens as they are proposing during term time in July, and closure of the bus stop closest to Hall Mead in Hall Lane. Ward Councillors are not happy with the proposal to close during term time, and are pushing to get this moved to the Summer holidays.

Cllrs GILLIAN FORD, PHIL RUCK
and JOHN TYLER

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.

Upminster police update

The Upminster ward panel welcomed three new members to its meeting on the 18th May. I also have a further five possible members who I am in contact with. In reply to the recent regular survey to residents a number of concerns were identified. These included theft of and from motor vehicles and residential burglary. These both remain priorities for the Safer Neighbourhood Team for the next three months. Upminster Park was also identified as an area of concern for anti-social behaviour, which as the warmer weather approaches, may be an issue. The police make regular

patrols in the Park.

There has been a worrying increase in commercial burglary in the past three months compared to 2022. This has increased from 1 to 4 and whilst still small in number, may indicate a trend. This includes sheds and garages so the message is keep them securely locked. Residential burglary has increased from 4 to 6 in this three months compared to 2022 with an increase from zero to 3 in attempted residential burglaries.

As the weather improves the police remind us to ensure doors and windows are locked when leaving the house. There has been a significant increase in theft of motor vehicles in this period from 8 in 2022 to 17 in 2023. In the past, most thefts were of high value vehicles, whereas in 2023 vehicles are more mixed. Again the message from the police is to ensure vehicles are locked, a properly fitted steering lock is advised together with a Faraday Bag for keyless cars. There is no apparent location pattern to either burglaries or vehicle theft. Theft from motor vehicles has reduced from 18 to 6 in this period which may show the message regarding

not leaving possessions on view in vehicles and ensuring they are locked is being noted. We currently have 3 Police Constables on the ward, with our sole PCSO, Joanne. Our Sergeant, who we share with three other wards, tells us that more PCSOs are being recruited across the Met so we may get more soon.

LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

Neighbourhood Watch

A number of roads in Upminster have active Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators and the Safer Neighbourhood Team is always happy to hear from anyone who would be interested in starting up one. There is help and support available for this. In addition Havering's Neighbourhood Watch Association is looking for volunteers to join their management committee, with a number of roles available. If anyone is interested in joining that team please email Michael Winter, the Chairman michaelwinter@talktalk.net

LINDA VAN DEN HENDE

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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School Streets permit renewals

Following an enquiry from a resident, Residents' Association Councillors have confirmed with Havering Council that all residents living in School Streets zones, who currently have a vehicle exemption permit, will automatically be sent a renewal reminder one month before their annual permit expires.

Upminster Police

Please note this month the Upminster Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) will be at:

Roomes Restaurant, Station Road, Upminster on Thursday, 6th July between 12pm to 1pm

Upminster Park by the Kiosk on Saturday, 15th July between 12pm to 1pm.

Upminster Park by the Kiosk on Friday, 21st July between 5pm to 6pm.

Caffe Nero, 26 Station Road on Thursday 27th July between 4pm and 5pm.

In the event of any urgent business arising the SNT team might not be able to attend.

Foodbank

With the rising cost of living the Foodbank is under severe strain with increased requests for assistance. If you can donate via one of the supermarkets, that's

great, but not everything clients need is donated in sufficient quantity so it is helpful for them to have monetary donations as well so they can stock up on items donated less often. And they have to meet the costs associated with running a warehouse; it all adds up. You could send a cheque, payable to Kingdom Storehouse Ltd, to the Harold Hill Food Bank, Unit 1, Guardian Business Centre, Faringdon Avenue, Romford, RM3 8FD, or you could go online to <https://haroldhill.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>. Please consider donating - it could make so much difference to a family in need.

Southend Adventure Island and Sealife discounted tickets

Adventure Island tickets only £16 and Sealife tickets £7.50. To buy pop into either Caffe Gelato, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster or Maa Eyecare, Avon Road, Upminster. Cash only please. Present your voucher to the kiosk in Adventure Island and they will exchange for a wristband for the rides. Tickets are valid for all days the park is open up to the end of 2023. All tickets are £16 regardless of height, but height restrictions still apply on rides. (£28 on the door). All the money raised goes to the Engayne Primary Friends



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Cranham ward Councillor drop-in sessions

Do you have any problems with Council services in the Cranham ward? Your Cranham ward Councillors can be contacted throughout the year, but if you want to talk to them in person you can meet them at one of their drop-in sessions. The next one will be on the 5th July, 11am-12noon, Cafe 4 You, Front Lane. There will be no meeting in August. Other dates this year are 6th September, 4th October and 1st November.

Saturday Night Lounge

The Saturday Night Lounge is going from strength to strength. The next one will be on Saturday, 1st July. Please come and join us. You can expect fun, friendship, pool, quiz nights, music and events. All welcome, alone or with friends - no plus 1 needed. Serving soft drinks, hot drinks, snacks, soup & roll. NO PAYMENT REQUIRED for any part of this event. 1st Saturday of every

month, 7.30pm to 10pm at Moor Lane Church, Cranham, RM14 1HN. Alcohol free venue - [email saturdaynightlounge@gmail.com](mailto:saturdaynightlounge@gmail.com)

Twittering Councillors

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)

You can also find Councillor Gillian Ford on Twitter and she is happy to receive messages from residents via her account [@CllrGillianFord](https://twitter.com/CllrGillianFord)

Pop-in at St. Luke's, Front Lane, Cranham

Meeting in the Centre on Mondays from 1.30-3.30pm. Pop-In is a weekly group for those who are retired. We offer refreshments, conversation, regular speakers and activities. Come and join us.

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